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USSR Said To Oppose Further FMLN Support

PM3011193189 Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Nov 89 p 48

[Bertrand de la Grange dispatch: "Stormy Meeting in Managua: Soviets Call Cuban and Nicaraguan Authorities to Order"]

[Text] Managua—A running battle is in progress between Moscow and its two Latin American allies, Cuba and Nicaragua, who are accused of endangering the detente with Washington and supplying the Salvadoran guerrillas. Just a few days before the U.S.-Soviet summit, Moscow has called Managua and Havana to order during a stormy—and secret—meeting held in the Nicaraguan capital on 28 November.

The results of the dressing down are spectacular, because Cuba is reported to have committed itself to no longer using Nicaraguan territory to help the Salvadoran rebels of the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front (FMLN), and Managua is said to have decided to discreetly expel the Salvadoran guerrilla representatives stationed on its territory. This latter decision is believed to have been made on the same day during a second meeting restricted to the nine commanders of the Sandinist National Directorate, Nicaragua's supreme organ of power.

The three governments were represented by high-ranking officials summoned as a matter of great urgency (apparently by the Soviets) after the general offensive launched by the Salvadoran guerrillas on 11 November and the discovery last Saturday in El Salvador of a damaged aircraft loaded with arms that had come from Nicaragua. The principal suspect is Cuba, which is said to have initiated the latest consignments of arms destined for the FMLN, and to have used Nicaraguan territory thanks to complicity within the army and the party without informing the nine commanders of the National Directorate.

That at least is the line defended in private by the Sandinist leaders, who are furious with Fidel Castro's regime. Managua has in fact pledged on several occasions to stop providing arms to the Salvadoran guerrillas, in particular during the signing of the Central America peace accord in August 1987. Furthermore, during the visit to Managua at the start of October by Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, the two sides agreed to seek negotiated solutions to end the various conflicts existing in Central America. Since then, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has suspended the 18-month-long cease-fire in Nicaragua, and Moscow suspects him of having given the go-ahead for the offensive in El Salvador, reportedly prepared in Managua and Havana, where the FMLN possessed a major logistical infrastructure.

The Sandinists are worried because they know that El Salvador is going to make use of the UN Security Council, to which it has complained, as a platform for proving Nicaragua's interference in its internal affairs. "We are already in a very difficult situation economically and diplomatically," a Sandinist leader admits. "The Salvadoran affair can only aggravate our isolation even though we have nothing to do with recent events. This offensive and these arms deliveries were organized by the FMLN and Cuba. We were opposed to the offensive because we think that objective conditions are not favorable for a general insurrection in El Salvador. We are now paying a very high price for our solidarity with the FMLN."

Managua hopes that the major decisions made on Tuesday will "reassure the Soviet Union, which remains distrustful of us," the Sandinist leader adds. The Sandinists fear, however, that Moscow may make fresh concessions on Central America to convince Washington of its good faith. One of the concessions thought to be envisaged is the recognition of a symmetry between Nicaragua and El Salvador, which would amount to placing the anti-Sandinist contras and the FMLN on a par, and thus to demanding the simultaneous demobilization of the two guerrilla movements.

That is unacceptable to Managua, which considers the contras "mercenaries" in the service of the United States that cannot be compared to the "true guerrillas" in El Salvador. The Sandinists are demanding the implementation of the latest peace accords signed in Honduras in August, which envisage the demobilization of the contras before 5 December.

Cavallo Offers To Host Central American Summit

PY2911181289 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1750 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (NA)—Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo reported this afternoon that Argentina has made an offer to the presidents of Central American countries to host a future summit aimed at resolving the crisis in that region, exacerbated recently by the resurgence of civil war in El Salvador. Cavallo made this announcement at a luncheon organized by the Executive Finance Institute at a hotel in downtown Buenos Aires.

Menem: C. American Summit Proposal 'Advancing'

PY3011165289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1615 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 30 Nov (TELAM)—Today President Carlos Menem said that the Argentine proposal to host a Central American presidential summit to seek a solution to the Salvadoran conflict and the Central American conflict "is advancing."

In a statement made at the Government House press room, Menem said that representatives from both the Salvadoran Government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front "view our proposal favorably."

In this regard, Menem reported that yesterday he phoned Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and discussed the Argentine proposal with him. Menem also said that during his visit to Paraguay he received a phone call from Salvadoran President Cristiani.

Group of 8 Ministers To Meet in Buenos Aires

PY3011163489 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Report from the Foreign Ministry by Diego Ibarra]

[Text] A meeting of Group of Eight foreign and finance ministers will begin in Buenos Aires on 4 December. The decision to hold this meeting was contained in a communique issued by the Group of Eight presidents in Ica, Peru, in October 1989.

It has been leaked that the goal of this meeting is to prepare a Latin American integration project that will permit the continent to make substantial progress before 1992 when the European Common Market will achieve greater unity.

In principle, the agenda of the meeting will be open. However, as the meeting's host country, Argentina will be in charge of raising some issues so that the meeting will be fruitful and not fruitless.

During the Group of Eight foreign and finance ministers meeting, the Argentine side will basically discuss customs and tariff problems among these countries. The agenda of the Group of Eight foreign and finance ministers meeting will be released by the Foreign Ministry on 30 November.

Cuba

U.S. Secretary of State's Remarks Criticized

FL3011193189 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker speaks of Cuba as if it were the United States' backyard. This status might be acceptable if it were considered in geographic terms. In any case, we would be an independent and sovereign backyard.

What is wrong is that Mr Baker is attempting to show the Cuban revolution what direction it should take. We are old enough to make that decision, which we have always been absolutely competent to make.

Baker tearfully complained yesterday that while Hungary, the GDR, and CSSR are leaning toward a so-called liberalized climate, Cuba and its allies in Central America follow a policy along the lines of Brezhnev's cold war doctrine. We will not speak for the other countries. It has never seemed a good idea to us to kill ourselves in the ring while the enemy jumps for joy on the sidelines. Whenever possible, Cuba has tried not to speak for other countries, but in this case we must speak for ourselves.

First, we would like to advise Mr Baker to abandon his old-fashioned arrogance and his meddling. We remind the U.S. secretary of state that Cuba is not a banana republic. What cold war is Baker talking about in his reference to Cuba? Which country is doing the blockading? Which country attacks the other? This is truly ironic. The United States not only maintains a cold war toward Cuba, it also is the primary promoter of a hot war in Central America. What right does the United States have to allege that Cuba supplies weapons to the Salvadoran insurgents when the U.S. President publicly requests funds for the Nicaraguan contras?

The United States will not accept the fact that the process began legally in El Salvador and, in turn, it publicly sponsors a war led from abroad against a sovereign state. This undoubtedly is not the philosophy of peace to which the peoples of small nations aspire.

Central American Tensions at 'New Peak'

PA0112000289 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Nov 89

["Our America" commentary by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] Central America is confronting one of its most difficult moments. Peace, so necessary in the region, again staggers with the suspension of relations between El Salvador and Nicaragua, which was decided by Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani. In August, everything looked more hopeful. The fifth meeting of heads of state of the area concluded on 7 August. At this meeting, the commitments for peace signed at Esquipulas II were ratified, and reasonable deadlines for disbanding the anti-Sandinist groups were established. The presidents who attended the Tela, Honduras, meeting also agreed upon another important point, the resumption of political negotiations aimed at ending the war between the rebels and the Salvadoran Government. The summit was a positive moment for the stability of the convulsed zone. As a result of the clumsy and arrogant move by Cristiani, however, tensions in the isthmus have reached a new peak. A solution to the Central American crisis may now be thwarted.

In truth, it was not difficult to predict today's events. The Salvadoran Government's reaction could nearly be anticipated. In truth, the regime was never sincerely interested in talking with the revolutionaries or taking a less reticent stance at the summits. As Robert White, former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador, said in an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES published on 21 November, the desire of the ruling party, ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], and the hardline military for a negotiated solution is very weak. In the sick minds of men like Roberto D'Aubuisson, former death squad leader, White went on to say, Cristiani is only a figurehead. The same ignorance and underestimation of their opponents led the military into another error. They thought that the guerrillas agreed to talk because they had lost their influence on and credibility with the masses. Only now, after the armed opposition has threatened to take the capital, did the government stumble on the truth and respond with massive bombings and reprisals against Nicaragua.

The outlook for this area thus becomes more and more somber. In Nicaragua, although President Daniel Ortega had been complying with the Tela agreements, the contras have not yet been disbanded. To top it off, the United States has not concealed its intention to boycott the possible Sandinist National Liberation Front's [FSLN] victory in the elections. Regarding Honduras, the recent election of Rafael Callejas introduces a possible new obstacle to the efforts to pacify Central America. The new Honduran president, a conservative of the National Party, very closely associated with the Army, hinted of aggressive stances against Managua, particularly regarding the contras' disbanding. As in the past, danger looms over Central America. It is a powder keg about to explode. This must be prevented immediately.

Minister Discusses Foreign Debt, Education

FL3011120089 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0041 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Interview with Education Minister Jose Ramon Fernandez by Daniel Torres in Quito on 29 November—recorded]

[Text] [Torres] Minister, I have noticed some really optimistic statements have been made in this event that show that not everything is [words indistinct]. I would

like to know what your opinion is about education in Latin America today and about the discussions that are taking place in this meeting.

[Fernandez] Yes, I am not trying to take away from the good things and efforts that have been made in one country or another. However, I think this is neither the significant nor general aspect that can describe the situation of education in Latin America today. I would say that some of the gentlemen who have spoken have expressed ambivalence. In other words, on the one hand they have informed us about progress, advances, prospects, and optimistic illusions. However, on the other hand, they have spoken about the really tragic situation, which according to me, is what governs the situation of education in Latin America today. I repeat, there are some exceptions, such as Nicaragua's literacy campaign—which [words indistinct] all the U.S. activities through the contras and their policy of destruction and death they have sown in that brother country—or the literacy campaign that has been carried out, and whose second phase is now under way in the brother Republic of Ecuador where we now are.

We see that the foreign debt is at the heart of this whole situation. It is not only the foreign debt as debt, but rather the conditions and circumstance which made it possible and have allowed it to grow. I would like to say it more clearly: If the foreign debt disappeared tomorrow, and the trade relations and other international mechanisms the rich impose on the poor continued to be the same, within 3, 4, 5, or 10 years the foreign debt would be just as large or close to the one we have today. Unequal trade and the conditions that are imposed on us do not permit each country to make reasonable use of its human potential, natural resources, or the products it makes. Current conditions do not permit balanced trade, which would prevent the poorer countries from being so poor and which would allow them to have access to a more dignified life.

Here, in the meeting—and please excuse the length of this answer; I do not know if you will edit it later to make it more coherent—but in the meeting we have also spoken about health. It is really tragic. Any of the more advanced Latin American countries have an infant mortality rate in children under age 1 that is 8-10 times higher than Cuba has today. This year, Cuba has an 11.3 infant mortality rate per 1,000 [births]. However, in other countries, and I do not want to name any, 70, 80, and over 100 per 1,000 is a common and tolerable thing. Therefore, one must ask—as I will do in my speech later on—if it is possible for there to be education and development if there is not good nutrition nor health conditions for children to go to school. Is this possible, if children cannot be guaranteed their physical development so they can truly assimilate the education they will receive? Those in UNICEF agreed on this, and I agree with them. That is why I say that if out of all the speeches many things were learned, I could take 20 percent of what was said, and I would take it further. I would make it part of the emphasis Cuba places on these economic and political issues in general.

However, there are 40 or 50 percent of us who disagree with what has been said, and there is another percentage which could or could not have been said. [sentence as heard] I will not begin a semantics war with anyone from any organization. However, I believe that in such far-reaching moments as these for education and development in the world, we must be clear in expressing our positions. International development agencies, banks and other agencies, and rich countries cannot ignore the poverty and underdevelopment that exist in our countries. If we want to live in a world of peace, they have the moral and ethical responsibility—and the [words indistinct] reasonable obligation for their own survival—to try to break the chains they have around our necks which are almost asphyxiating us, so there can be a peaceful world without [social] explosions, a more just and humane world.

Castro Inaugurates Pediatrics Hospital in Havana

FL0112022889 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, officially inaugurated this afternoon the Juan Manuel Marquez Pediatrics Teaching Hospital in Marianao Municipality, Havana.

[Begin Castro recording, in progress] ...of course. [applause] I think that to reduce the infant mortality rate in any of our countries to at least 25 or 20 [per 1,000 births] is not difficult. It is not very costly. That is why it is very painful to think that some countries have rates of 60, 70, 80, 100, and over 100. This is simply because nothing is done about it. It really hurts to think about it. One asks oneself: What do the politicians do? What do they spend their time doing? They are not even capable of saving the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

When Mr Graham [UNICEF official] came in 1984, I heard a very strong argument: If services can reach the children, the lives of 700,000 children in Latin America could be saved. The situation has not changed since 1984. That was the approximate figure he gave. Although it may have been (?reduced) somewhat with the [word indistinct], due to the problem of the debt and the lack of concern for health, the health situation in many countries has worsened, in particular the health of children. That is why.... [changes thought] If we figure out the statistics and analyze them well, the number of children that die could be over 700,000. What does this mean? It means that in 10 years, 7 million children will die. It is a war against.... [rephrases] That neglect is the same as a war against children. They are killing them—700,000 children every year. They are killing them. Let us suppose they do not get the rate as low as 11, 12, or 13—I think 14 was our rate when he [Graham] gave those figures. Our rate was 15 at that time. Not much

progress has been made in this area; there has even been regression. Our rate is now 11. But let's not think about aiming for 11. Let's think about 10. Let's think about 20. [corrects himself] I think that with a rate of 20, over half a million children could be saved, or maybe even more. But do you know why over half a million children do not get saved? Because the governments do not feel like saving them. They do not care and are not concerned. I do not want to give a political speech here, in the midst of the illustrious medical congress. However, I have no choice but to say a couple of things that are evident. These truths are self-evident, like that famous statement made by [applause makes final words indistinct]. [end recording]

Politburo Member Concludes Visit to Ghana

FL3011130989 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] A delegation presided over by Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, has ended its visit to Ghana. Captain Kojo Tsikata, a member of Ghana's Provisional National Defense Council, held a final round of talks with Risquet and later accompanied him to the Accra airport.

Shortly before departing, the Cuban leader described his visit as very productive and added that relations between Cuba and Ghana are being developed in an intense and progressive manner.

Rodriguez Welcomes Angola Internationalists

FL3011204489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] An official ceremony was held this morning at the Universal Hall of the Revolutionary Armed Forces to welcome more than 1,000 internationalists who returned to Cuba this morning by ship. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, delivered a speech to welcome the internationalists.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] Our revolutionary fatherland welcomes you, combatants from Angola, as heroes, and pays tribute to those who could not enjoy victory because they fell there in the line of duty. You are returning today to our country and should now join a new battle which, under Fidel's leadership, our people are waging today to rectify errors and reverse negative trends. Each one of you has a job to do in this struggle [passage indistinct] combatants of Cuba. Backing you will be the veteran combatants of the Spanish Civil War, of our war of liberation, those who fought at Playa Giron [Bay of Pigs], those who in one way or another have worked for the national independence of our land.

Thank you, Comrades, for having shown firmness and dedication, for having honored our more than 100 years of struggle for our national independence. Our battles are not yet over, because the enemy is watching us and threatening us. We will show them that the Cuban people, who took their internationalist fervor to Angola, that our people will never surrender, nor will we ever be defeated. Fatherland or death. [Crowd shouts: We will win] [applause] [end recording]

Former Internationalists To Work in Construction

FL3011155889 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1122 GMT 30 Nov 89

[From the "Haciendo Radio" program]

[Text] Holguin Province has assigned 1,755 internationalist youths without previous labor ties to different functions and positions; they will also receive training. This figure includes the 725 youths demobilized from the Revolutionary Armed Forces who completed their mission in Angola and did not receive a labor assignment last year. The youths have begun working on agricultural-livestock construction projects, while another group has joined the forces mobilized to construct the Juragua nuclear power plant in Cienfuegos.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Region Needs More U.S. 'Support' in Drug War

FL3011132389 Bridgetown CANA in English 2301 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Miami, Florida, Nov 29, CANA— Jamaica and other Caribbean nations are increasing efforts to block the flow of drugs, especially cocaine, into the United States, according to Jamaica's minister of national security, K.D. Knight. However, Knight told an anti-drug workshop here on Tuesday that more American technical and material support is essential for those efforts to be fully effective.

"Most of us can report some success in making parts of the region less attractive to drug smugglers over the past 15 months or so," Knight said. But there is a "keenly felt need" in the Caribbean for U.S. radar equipment, as well as surveillance aircraft and helicopters, he added. Knight also said that Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley's recent call for an international strike force against drugs—which was part of Manley's seven-point proposal for internationalizing the anti-drug effort—"is a logical answer to the global and violent dimensions of the drug enterprise."

Knight was the keynote speaker at the workshop, which was sponsored by local chambers of commerce, the State Department, and Caribbean/Central American action. The workshop came on the eve of the 13th annual Miami Conference on the Caribbean. The Tuesday to Friday conference is expected to draw 2,000 public and private sector leaders from throughout the hemisphere.

"Easily the most damaging effect drug trafficking has had across the Caribbean region is on trade," Knight

said. It has impacted especially on agricultural and horticultural exports, he explained, because "narcotics traffickers place their drugs in legitimate cargo" involving those items.

"We calculate that the preferential tariff advantage offered by the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) is more than wiped out by the cost of delays, not to speak of the elaborate additional security that needs to be put in place," he said. "These are security costs that our competition do not have to include in their costing and pricing for export." Further complicating the narcotics problem has been the use by traffickers of isolated Caribbean beaches and islands as refueling or transhipment points for Colombian cocaine, Knight said.

In confronting this challenge, Knight said Jamaica and other Caribbean states have launched "serious efforts to intensify our drug enforcement and interdiction capability and simultaneously to expand and increase our joint operations with the United States through the Drug Enforcement Administration, Customs, and Coast Guard operations." In the case of Jamaica, a new port security corps has also been set up to increase waterfront vigilance. He said, "it is in the interests of business and our country that we should do so." People of the Caribbean feel "the Caribbean region is more than a conduit for drugs...more than a washbasin for money to be laundered to the advantage of others," Knight told the workshop.

"We are, after all, a region of aspiring, self-directed countries, albeit emergent, each with an agenda of genuine concerns having to do with the shaping of this part of the planet so that it can be fit for human habitation—our habitation." [passage omitted]

Barbados

Sandiford Presents 'Upbeat Economic Assessment'

FL3011192789 Bridgetown CANA in English 1806 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Report by Peter Richards]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Nov 30, CANA— Barbados on Thursday observed its 23rd anniversary of independence from Britain with a somewhat upbeat economic assessment by Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford. Sandiford said in an Independence Day message that the island's development was proceeding well, despite "its share of economic and social difficulties."

"Indications are that the economy will grow by 3.7 percent in real terms in 1989. This is a solid rate of growth, and it will be somewhat higher than the 3.3 percent average annual rate of growth realised over the period since 1960," Sandiford said. Overall, he said the various sectors of the economy—tourism, manufacturing, construction and service—showed much improvement, but the output from the agricultural sector continued to decline during the first half of the year.

Independence celebrations began in the morning with a military parade, at which the special guest was South African anti-apartheid leader the Rev. Allan Boesak. The salute was taken by Chief Justice Sir Denys Williams who is acting governor general in the absence of Sir Hugh Springer who suffered what press reports describe as a mild stroke in London last week.

Twenty-two Barbadians, including West Indies cricketer Malcolm Marshall and cricket commentator and writer Tony Cozier, were given national awards. The top honour of a knighthood went to former parliamentarian Kenmore Husbands.

In his address to the nation, Sandiford said that while unemployment continued to be a problem his administration was tackling seriously, the highest number of persons ever employed in Barbados was recorded during the period October 1988 to March 1989. He said that unemployment for this period was estimated at 16.5 percent, which was just over two points lower than for the last quarter of 1988.

Sandiford, who over the last few months has been facing severe pressure from the opposition over his handling of the economy, said the government's finances in terms of current revenue was much better than the previous year, resulting in a surplus of Bds 20.7 million dollars (Bds 1.00 = 50 U.S. cents).

He said the island's balance of payments situation had during the year come under "some pressure" and government was forced to adopt a series of measures to remedy the situation. "A number of factors, including high debt service payments, rising imports and a decline in earnings from sugar resulted in a fall in the foreign exchange reserves by some Bds 103.6 million dollars at the end of September," he said. But he noted that in the following month, the situation had improved with the foreign exchange reserves held by the central bank rising to Bds 217.6 million dollars.

Sandiford also reviewed the crime situation on the island. He said a national forum on illegal drugs will be held in January, when government hopes to present Parliament with an amendment to the Narcotic Drugs Bill to widen police powers. He said the forum will focus on the problem of the use of illicit drugs, examine and discuss the physical, psychological and socio-economic effects of drug abuse and recommend strategies for tackling the problem. He appealed for an end to lawlessness, noting some concern about the level of crime, particularly some well-publicised acts of violence involving youths.

The prime minister ended his message by telling his countrymen that success came from honest effort and hard work.

Haiti

'March of Refusal' Fails To Materialize

FL3011163689 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 0945 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The national march of refusal did not take place in Port-au-Prince or the major provincial towns. The police dispersed small groups of demonstrators without incident. Seymour Romain of the National Democratic Progressive Party of Haiti and Philippe Delva of the Unified Party of Haitian Communists, PUCH, were arrested but released 3 hours later. Another PUCH member, Hugens Augustin, is still in jail. Port-au-Prince remained quiet, but there was a lot of activity in the marketplaces.

Situation in Provinces

FL3011193689

[Editorial Report] Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French at 0945 GMT on 30 November carries an 8-minute report on the situation in the Haitian provinces yesterday. Things were reported to be quiet in Jacmel: "There was no commercial activity at all. A demonstration began at 1100 on Sainte Anne Street in a poor neighborhood of downtown Jacmel. The police stopped this demonstration quickly, explaining that the demonstrators had not given the forces of order advance information about the demonstration, and thus there was no way to provide security for it."

The Cap-Haitien correspondent reported that everything was calm during the day but that sporadic rifle and machinegun fire was heard in the evening. "It was the Army reponding by shooting in the air to the hail of rocks and bottles thrown by the residents of the poor neighborhoods of Cite Lescot and La Fossette."

The correspondent from Gonaives reported that early in the morning, an Haitian Armed Forces pickup truck filled with soldiers began patrolling the town. There was a procession which ended up at the cathedral, "where more than 100 people gathered to reflect on the significance of 29 November for Haiti in general, and for them in particular."

Parties Discuss Failure of March

FL3011182189 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 0945 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Excerpts] The political parties have commented on the national march of refusal, a march they called for yesterday but which did not materialize.

Hubert de Ronceray of the Mobilization for National Development feels there are two main reasons for the failure of the march: exhaustion on the part of the people, and the climate of fear which currently prevails in the capital. De Ronceray feels that insecurity has now become a political ploy on the part of the regime, and that people are afraid of dying for nothing.

[Begin De Ronceray recording] To us, exhaustion means we have exhausted all forms of peaceful and non-violent struggle. We have been using the limited means of demonstrations and strikes for years. We note that these demonstrations and peaceful strikes have brought about no changes in the extreme poverty, unemployment, chronic instability, and insecurity. These are increasing daily instead of diminishing.

We note that union, people's, and political organizations are always calling for demonstrations and strikes. This has been going on for more than 3 years, whereas the dictatorship has become a game of [words indistinct] among the military. Could it be that they are now taking revenge, after 30 years of civilian government? Our impression is that this is true, because they are keeping the democratic dream in check.

We think the second explanation of the failure of this march is the climate of fear, which is fueled by the images of the torture of three political and union leaders: Jean Auguste Mesyeux, Evans Paul, and Etienne Marineau. Everyone has seen these three leaders on television and has a mental picture of them. [passage omitted]

This climate of fear is also sustained by the recruiting of mercenaries by the Port-au-Prince prefecture. Everyone remembers the prefecture of the past. The moment they brought back the prefecture, it meant they had returned to the state terrorism that has hurt and harmed Haiti so much over the last 30 years. Thus, I think insecurity is becoming a weapon, a political tactic. Fear and terrorism are holding people back. People are asking themselves: Why? Because if we are going to die, we should die for a specific cause. [passage omitted] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Dejoie of the National Agricultural and Industrial Party says the people had to back off in view of the show of force by the forces of order. He feels the failure of the 29 November march is both disappointing and encouraging. He feels the battle must continue to arrive at free and honest elections. [passage omitted]

Max Bourjolly, No 2 man in the Unified Party of Haitian Communists, feels the following can be learned from yesterday's failure: First, the National Assemblage must be expanded. Second, a better framework for demonstrations in Haiti must be provided. This climate of terror can only be overcome through organization and greater determination. [passage omitted]

Salinas Offers To Help in C. American Situation

PA3011052489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0402 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Nov (EFE)—Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari today sent a letter to the five Central American chiefs of state reiterating his government's willingness "to help reestablish the dialogue and encourage peace and national reconciliation processes in the region."

In a letter delivered by the Mexican ambassadors in the five Central American countries, Salinas said that the events in "El Salvador have negative effects not only on the Salvadoran people, but also on the peace process in the area."

The letter indicates that "an extended conflict could directly affect Mexico also because of its geographic proximity and because of the many facts and situations that link Central America with our territory."

Based on this, the Mexican Government has offered "to contribute its good offices and provide support, if the interested parties request it."

This support would be provided in the framework "of strict respect for the principles of nonintervention and free choice of peaceful means for resolving controversies, for the Esquipulas I and II agreements, and for the Tela agreement, to reestablish the dialogue and the national reconciliation process in the region."

Secretary Reports $300 Million Trade Surplus

PA3011214389 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] The Secretary of Commerce and Industrial Development has reported that during the first 7 months of the year, Mexico registered a trade surplus of $300 million. Automobile spare parts and locally assembled products topped the export list. The secretary also reported that imports increased in August because of the purchase of capital goods and semiassembled items that will help modernize Mexican industries.

The secretary denied that Mexico has become an importer of junk or poor-quality products. He pointed out that all imports have to meet the same quality control requirements as domestic products.

El Salvador

Official Note Suspends Relations With Nicaragua

PA3011160589 San Salvador Canal Seis Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Today, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani sent an official note to his Nicaraguan counterpart informing President Ortega of his government's decision to suspend diplomatic and trade relations with Nicaragua.

Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas Castro asserted that the suspension of diplomatic and trade relations with Nicaragua announced by President Cristiani means that contacts between the two nations will be maintained at the lowest level.

Pacas Castro said that the Salvadoran Government agreed to maintain relations at that level and not to break relations in order to continue with the Esquipulas II peace plan.

[Begin Pacas recording] International law is dynamic, and the Vienna Convention itself includes the temporary suspension of diplomatic relations. I believe that we must see this situation within that context, because if we had talked—and President Cristiani was very careful in the terms he used—about breaking relations with Nicaragua, it would be extremely difficult to continue the Central American dialogue.

We do not want to be accused of trying to disrupt the Central American peace process. On the contrary, our intention is to draw the international community's attention to our region to prevent Mr Daniel Ortega from signing all kinds of agreements in the future without abiding by any of them. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Pacas said that the note on the suspension of diplomatic relations with Nicaragua was sent today.

Similarly, Pacas added that he is still in touch with the region's foreign ministries to establish the date and venue of the upcoming Central American summit.

Ortega Blamed for Supporting FMLN Actions

PA3011164389 San Salvador Radio Cadena Cuscatlan in Spanish 1451 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The assassination of Dr Francisco Jose Guerrero is the latest in the irrational chain of violence unleashed by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] against our people and distinguished statesmen.

There is no doubt that if not for the political and logistic support of Daniel Ortega, the tyrannical aggressor of the Nicaraguan people, the FMLN would not have been able to carry out its evil actions, sowing so much destruction and death in our territory.

Worst about it is that for international consumption the FMLN has been talking peace. Jorge Shafik Handal, with the characteristic cynicism of the self-styled FMLN commanders, even said they wanted a Christmas without war just when they were getting ready to launch the 11 November offensive. He was surely referring, in a sarcastic manner, to the peacefulness of cemetaries.

We must note that Dr Guerrero had been called upon because of his political experience and he had agreed to be part of a board of advisers of the government's dialogue commission. Dr Guerrero had also been in San Jose, Costa Rica, when the second round of talks took place last October and when the cease-fire was rejected by the FMLN for tactical reasons. It was rejected even though it was the topic to be discussed, according to the first meeting held in Mexico in September.

Now, the FMLN, as part of the war strategy against the people, has murdered Dr Guerrero who was participating in the peace process, which is not only for El Salvador but for Central America in general.

No one in his right mind wants the conflict to worsen, but no sensible person can now believe in Daniel Ortega. This became especially clear during the summit held in Tela, Honduras, in August, in which Ortega officially recognized he had been helping the FMLN and in which he signed the agreement pledging not to allow Nicraguan territory to be used for supporting the Salvadoran terrorists. However as soon as the presidents bid farewell, Ortega continued to send weapons to the FMLN, as has been fully proven.

Dialogue, of course, is the civilized way to achieve peace, but can one trust the word of Ortega and his FMLN puppets with their new criminal offensive when they hypocritically speak of peace?

From all viewpoints, the assassination of Dr Guerrero is condemnable, but still more repugnant is the fact that when this distinguished professional supported the peace process, which was proposed and respected by the Salvadoran Government, he was placed in the terrorist sights of the FMLN.

Communique on USSR Pressure on Ortega, Castro

PA3011224789 San Salvador Radio Cadena Cuscatlan in Spanish 2155 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Communique issued by the National Information Center, CIN, on 30 November]

[Text] Following a Soviet order, Daniel Ortega has been forced to expell from Nicaragua the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] terrorist leaders who for years have kept their general command post in Managua, with Ortega's support and protection. When the Soviet Government confirmed that Ortega had supplied arms to the FMLN, which were secretly intended for the exclusive use of the Sandinist Army—as was the case with the SAM-7 missiles—they ordered him to stop

supporting the FMLN terrorists because this endangers the Soviet and American policies of rapprochement. The Kremlin has reacted with noticeable annoyance following Fidel Castro and Daniel Ortega's direct meddling, which is causing serious divisions within the leadership of the Sandinist government because some of the commanders did not agree on supporting the FMLN terrorist uprising.

The expulsion order for Jorge Shafik Handal, Joaquin Villalobos, and other FMLN leaders is expected any moment now. This will significantly reduce the FMLN's political clout. At the summit meeting between the Soviet and U.S. presidents, Castro and Ortega's aggression using the FMLN against the Salvadoran people will be reviewed in accordance with Costa Rican President Arias' initiative.

Ponce on Rebels Using Foreign War Techniques

PA3011140789 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1310 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Colonel Rene Emilio Ponce, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said during a news conference that the terrorist criminals are using Sandinist and Vietnamese techniques. The military leader explained that these foreign war techniques have been brought to El Salvdor by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front]. He explained that the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Front in Argentina and Uruguay opened holes in the walls to communicate among themselves and to get reports from the combat areas. [sentence as heard] Concerning the procedures copied from the Vietnamese and the Sandinists, Col Ponce said that the tactic has been to use a defenseless civilian population as a shield and expose them to the dangers of war to paralyze the Armed Forces or force them to act in an unrestrained manner. Despite that, Ponce added, the terrorists were not able to stop the Salvadoran Armed Forces' intelligent and bold actions, and thus far the Armed Forces have acted very professionally.

Army Denies Rumors About Bombing Escalon Area

PA3011225289 San Salvador Radio Cadena Cuscatlan in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Armed Forces communique issued on 30 November]

[Text] Through this media, the Armed Forces hereby notify the Salvadoran people, specifically those living in the Escalon residential area of San Salvador, that they should not heed rumors to the effect that the Escalon residential area will be bombed. This is false. Any actions against international terrorism will be announced in due time. The residents of Escalon should rest assured and not leave their homes.

Army Says Guerrilla Offensive 'Has Failed'

PA0112045889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0350 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Armed Forces stated this evening that the guerrilla offensive "has failed and has not represented a military threat" to the Army following 19 days of strong rebel attacks in the context of 10 years of war.

Army spokesman Major Mauricio Chavez Caceres said that "following the failure of the guerrilla offensive that had been prepared for over a year, what we can expect from them (the rebels) is attacks on prominent people and on the economic infrastructure, and actions to scare the population."

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] renewed its attacks early on 29 November, when it attacked the country's most important military installation, set fire to a residence of U.S. military advisers, and confronted the Army in exclusive neighborhoods in northwest San Salvador.

Former Foreign Minister and President of the Supreme Court of Justice Francisco Jose Guerrero died on 28 November when he was shot by guerrillas, according to military sources. This took place hours before the renewed fighting which produced 40 casualties among guerrillas and soldiers.

In an official radio and television broadcast, Chavez Caceres today accused the FMLN of destroying some residences in the exclusive Escalon neighborhood in northwest San Salvador with dynamite, and of firing on private vehicles in upper- and middle-class San Salvador neighborhoods.

The military spokesman said: "They (the rebels) have not been able to deal a military blow; they have not been able to put up a fight with a single Army battalion or company."

The FMLN guerrillas today vacated the Escalon neighborhood after holding several houses there, from which they confronted the government troops for over 24 hours.

The FMLN announced a truce from 0600 to 1200 (1200 to 1800 GMT) today to evacuate foreigners, diplomats, and civilian residents from Escalon.

Over 200 U.S. citizens left today for the United States because of the fighting, particularly in Escalon, a residential area in which diplomats, high-ranking government officials, and powerful businessmen live.

Since the beginning of the guerrilla offensive on 11 November, approximately 2,000 people have died and hundreds have been wounded in the fighting between soldiers and rebels, which has also resulted in severe economic losses.

Armed Forces on FMLN 'Disinformation Campaign'

PA3011160789 San Salvador Radio Cadena Cuscatlan in Spanish 1445 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The clandestine and lying radio stations of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] terrorists continue to conduct a disinformation campaign at an international level with the purpose of distorting the truth regarding the aggression these bandits have launched against the Salvadoran people.

Very frequently they broadcast reports of unimaginable military victories of the FMLN. Their liar radio stations say they have occupied the municipalities of Soyapango, Mejicanos, Ayutuxtepeque, Ciudad Delgado, and others, which, despite the tragedy we are suffering, makes people burst out laughing because everyone knows these are big lies. These claims are absolutely false. The residents of those municipalities are going to their jobs, buses are operating, and everyday activities are being conducted in a normal manner.

The liar radio stations of the FMLN think they can confuse public opinion with their false information. These stations are used for propaganda and disinformation to make it appear as if the FMLN is winning military victories, which they have never attained and which are only in the minds of Ortega's puppets, who broadcast from Managua.

The people are asking themselves: Where are the cowardly terrorist and murderous chiefs of the FMLN, Jorge Shafik Handal, Joaquin Villalobos, and other cowards, who are in Managua enjoying a luxurious life and good food?

The Salvadoran people are fully aware of the victorious actions of our Armed Forces, who since the beginning of this genocidal and terrorist FMLN offensive have faced the aggressive mercenaries by reducing them to small terrorist groups, which are lost and are irrationally attacking the civilian population.

The FMLN has ridiculously claimed to completely control certain municipalities. All of these lies show that the murderous FMLN leaders do not have any arguments with which to conceal their unsuccessful rebel offensive.

Their greatest failure has been the Salvadoran people's rejection of the rebel actions. Despite so many threats made by the FMLN terrorists, our people have never supported them, let alone agreed to accept the weapons that the FMLN were offering them if they joined the rebellion. The FMLN and its terrorist offensive, which was conducted with the weapons that dictator Ortega gave to the FMLN puppets, has failed, and the Salvadoran people expect the nations of the free world to condemn this genocidal aggression of international communism.

Sporadic Shooting in San Salvador's Escalon Area

PA3011164889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1555 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—There is a tense calm, interrupted by sporadic shooting, in the exclusive Escalon neighborhood of the Salvadoran capital today. At the same time, many foreigners are leaving the neighborhood which was the site of heavy fighting between the Salvadoran Armed Forces and guerrillas yesterday.

An official of the UN office, which is located in the area of fighting, told ACAN-EFE that "all the personnel are fine, and we are now evacuating some employees and foreigners living in the area, taking advantage of the cease-fire" that was ordered by the Salvadoran guerrillas for several hours.

"We have not seen any guerrillas. The soldiers are in the area and entrance is restricted. They are only permitting the evacuation," the official said over the telephone.

A spokesman of the Armed Forces Press Committee (COPREFA) said this morning that the elite counterinsurgency Belloso and Atlacatl Battalions and troops with artillery are carrying out a special operation in Escalon to dislodge the rebels. The spokesman said the operation will include all of northern San Salvador. However, he said he could not provide further information because "we are still compiling information."

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) on 29 November resumed its attacks in San Salvador, especially in the upper class neighborhoods of Escalon, San Benito, and Maquilishuat and the middle class neighborhoods of Jardin Guadalupe, La Cima, and Lomas de San Francisco.

After several hours of fighting in the streets of the neighborhoods, the army said it had the situation under control. However, it admitted that the rebels had entrenched themselves in Escalon and had seized "the residents as hostages."

The guerrillas announced last night that from 0600 to 1200 today, 30 November, they "will undertake the evacuation of foreign personnel" in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods in northern San Salvador. The FMLN said the measure, which is being heeded by the foreigners living in those areas, is to guarantee the lives of the residents of Escalon.

Various sources said the rebels have left Escalon, but this information has yet to be confirmed.

FMLN Issues Communique on Arms Shipments

PA3011144589 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1215 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Communique issued by the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, in El Salvador on 29 November]

[Text] Regarding the international scandal that the Salvadoran Government has made over an alleged shipment of surface-to-air missiles found inside a wrecked light aircraft, the FMLN expresses the following:

1. In view of a possible intensification of the Salvadoran conflict, it is necessary to note that the Salvadoran Armed Forces were the first ones to escalate the war by launching indiscriminate attacks and air bombings against the civilian population in densely populated urban areas. The Salvadoran Armed Forces had been doing this for several years in our country's rural areas. In view of the damage that this causes to the population, since 1987 the FMLN has made proposals to scale down the war and suspend the use of aircraft and aviation equipment.

The Salvadoran Government's charges are hypocritical, as the government itself has turned aircraft into real instruments of genocide against the Salvadoran people.

2. The policy of the previous U.S. Administration has turned Central America into a huge arms market whereby thousands of tons of Soviet and U.S. weapons, including surface-to-air missiles, have been introduced into the area. This has created a flourishing black market for weapons, in which Salvadoran and Honduran military men and Nicaraguan contras participate as big-time smugglers.

3. The Salvadoran Government has begun a campaign of accusations against the Nicaraguan Government with the aim of putting up a smoke screen to cover up the genocide it has unleashed and divert the attention of the international community, which has been demanding:

A. That the Salvadoran Government stop the massive and indiscriminate attacks in densely populated urban areas and the persecution against the political opposition and grass roots movements;

B. An investigation to clear up the murder of six Jesuit priests and two domestic workers, along with the punishment of those responsible for these and similar crimes; and,

C. That the Salvadoran Government accept the cease-fire it has heretofore rejected and justify its intransigent and irrational position.

4. Cristiani's decision to suspend relations with Nicaragua based on an alleged shipment of missiles for the FMLN is not reasonable, not even by saying that this represents an escalation of the Salvadoran war. In fact, the U.S. Government has escalated the war by sending $4 billion in aid to strengthen the army and provide it with a powerful air force.

The justification has always been Nicaragua's support to the FMLN, thus refusing to admit the internal causes of the conflict and also keeping the doors closed to any negotiations. This has unnecessarily prolonged the Salvadoran people's suffering and has made more dramatic their legitimate struggle for a true democratic, pluralist, and nonaligned government.

Based on the above, we reiterate:

1. That we consider absolutely legitimate our right to obtain all types of weapons to guarantee our defense and protect our people from the successive military escalation that the Salvadoran Government has promoted with the firm support of the previous and present U.S. Governments. This includes the right to obtain weapons from various sources and to guarantee their arrival at our war fronts by any means available.

2. We maintain our total willingness to deescalate the war. We begin by expressing that we are totally willing to agree on a cease-fire with international supervision and to begin real negotiations to end the war with the participation of all the nation's political and social forces.

3. We are willing to refrain from using the surface-to-air missiles if the Air Force calls a complete halt to its bombings, strafing, and machinegunning throughout the national territory.

[Signed] FMLN General Command

Commanders Joaquin Villalobos, Jorge Shafik Handal, Eduardo Sancho, Salvador Sanchez Seren, and Francisco Jovel

El Salvador, 29 November 1989

FMLN Operations Suspended for Evacuation

PA3011123889 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1219 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) General Command in El Salvador on 29 November]

[Text] This is an FMLN General Command communique addressed to all our forces located in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods in San Salvador:

The FMLN General Command orders all our forces located in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods to suspend all operations in those neighborhoods between 0600 and 1200 on Thursday, 30 November, because an evacuation of foreign personnel will be carried out in those areas.

All operations in that area can be resumed at 1200.

[Signed] FMLN General Command

El Salvador, 29 November 1989

Seven Foreigners Deported, Others Charged

PA0112014289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] San Salvador, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Immigration Director Colonel Maximiliano Leiva reported today that 7 foreigners have been deported from El Salvador, and 14 will have to leave the country within the next few hours after being declared "persona non grata" for allegedly collaborating with the guerrillas.

Leiva told ACAN-EFE that an undetermined number of foreigners have been remanded to the courts, charged with arms possession or taking part in armed actions in complicity with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN). Leiva said that the seven deportees will be "permanently" banned so they will not be able to return to El Salvador.

Among the deported are U.S. citizens, Dutch, Germans, and Japanese, added Leiva. The Salvadoran official did not release the names of the deportees or the foreigners who will have to leave the country in the next few hours.

Jennifer Casolo, a U.S. citizen, was arrested by the security corps and accused of "arms possession." Gabriela Tornago, an Italian, was arrested and accused of "financing, recruiting, and being involved with terrorist groups."

According to official sources, Casolo was arrested at daybreak on 26 November at a house located in the "Miravalle" neighborhood, where the Army claims to have found a great amount of weapons. Tornago was arrested more than a week ago in the "Prados de Venecia" neighborhood. Police sources said that the Italian was preparing a fake wedding at her residence to gather people linked with the guerrillas, who started a so-called "insurrection" on 11 November.

Leiva asserted that the foreigners who are linked to the guerrillas will be remanded to the courts by the security force that makes the arrest.

Editorial Views Reciprocal Assistance Treaty

PA0112002689 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 30 Nov 89 p 7

[Editorial: "Should the Country Invoke TIAR"]

[Text] When listing some of the options available to our people for defending ourselves from the Sandinist aggression, Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas has mentioned the possibility that the Salvadoran Government might invoke the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) signed by the Latin American governments. We understand that in order to do this, it is necessary to first convoke CONDECA [Central American Defense Council].

Until now, the TIAR has been a dead issue. We do not recall a single case in which the community of nations has provided assistance to a government threatened by another one. Throughout the 2d half of this century, diplomatic good offices have been sufficient for reaching solutions acceptable to the parties in conflict.

However, the aggression sustained by El Salvador represents a new situation, totally new in the hemisphere, with respect to the pacts and agreements. For the first time, the government of one country has tried to impose by force on another country a scheme contrary and opposed to its system of life and its legal order. In the Latin American "revolutions" such as the Cuban and the Nicaraguan ones, a significant and evident majority of those two peoples supported the rebel movement, even though the massive opposition to one of those governments, the Somoza government, was very far from defeating it on the military field and bringing about the changes.

The case of El Salvador—under attack by an armed movement that is directed and financed by the Sandinists—would be the first occasion in which a government has the support of its citizens. In addition, it is engaged in improving the democratic mechanisms, and it runs the risk of perishing under the aggression coming from abroad.

The rebels have all sorts of heavy weapons, but only a government can provide them with surface-to-air missiles, Soviet rockets, recoilless cannons, and sophisticated projectiles. The cynical statements by Ortega about the Nicaraguan airplane that crashed constitute a confession of guilt.

If Managua's militaristic adventures are tolerated by the American nations, there will not be a single nation that is safe from the aggressions of other governments that resort to the plan of setting up an internal rebellion.

We cannot emphasize enough the seriousness of the so-called "final offensive" of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. The rebels do not have the troops, tactical capacity, weapons, bases, training camps, or logistical support required to set up frontal attacks against a trained Army. Although we will not have overwhelming evidence of Sandinist intervention, an examination of the events in themselves, and their magnitude, point to the only true cause for the most recent uprising.

Guatemala

U.S. Congressmen Back Democratization Process

PA0112020389 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 Nov 89 p 9

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] of Guatemala has issued a press bulletin reporting that during a special meeting in Washington between Deputy Alfonso Cabrera Hidalgo, PDC secretary general, and U.S. congressmen, the U.S. officials stated their support for the democratization process taking place in Guatemala.

The U.S. congressmen told Cabrera Hidalgo that Guatemala has endured dictatorial governments that have acted against the will of the people, but that this situation was overcome with the 1985 elections that produced the current transition government. They said that they hope the democratization process will be consolidated.

Deputy Cabrera Hidalgo reported that the purpose of his visit to the U.S. Congress was to seek political and economic support for Guatemala's development programs, and that it had positive results.

Congress Rejects 1990 Draft Budget

PA0112021289 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] After a heated debate that began at 1230 and ended at 1930 on 28 November, the congressional plenum issued Decree 71-89, which rejects the draft budget for fiscal year 1990.

The decree was approved after an agreement was reached between the Christian Democratic Congress faction and the opposition at approximately 1900.

The deputies disclosed that this is the first time in the country's political history that Congress has disapproved a budget, which on this occasion was done through consensus between the factions that form the legislative branch.

The decision to reject the 1990 budget was made at an urgent meeting between the heads of the factions, the president of Congress, and the legislative finance commission to seek an agreement to resolve the deadlocked budget debates.

According to Decree 71-89, in keeping with the Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala, during 1990 the budget for fiscal year 1989 and Decree 70-88, which ratified the 1989 budget, will remain in force.

Explaining the reasons why the Christian Democratic faction decided to reach a consensus with the opposition to reject the 1990 budget, Congress President Jose Fernando Lobo Dubon said that the decision was made because the budget was unsuitable.

Lobo Dubon and the Christian Democrats agreed that the 1990 budget draft was prepared when the exchange rate was 2.70, which renders it unsuitable because the current exchange rate exceeds 3 quetzals to the dollar.

During the meeting, the heads of the factions felt that there were only two options: to reject the budget, as they did, or declare themselves in permanent session to restructure the draft budget, reassign allocations, and redirect public spending.

Honduras

Army Denies Incursion Into Salvadoran Territory

PA3011150889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1908 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 28 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—A Honduran Armed Forces spokesman today denied that Honduran troops entered Salvadoran territory this week to attack positions of the Salvadoran guerrillas.

The Salvadoran Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) reported on 27 November through its clandestine station Radio Venceremos that Honduran soldiers attacked "La Nube" village in Chalatenango Department, which borders Honduras.

In that regard, Coronel Manuel Enrique Suarez, the Armed Forces public relations director, said: "We have no reason to do anything in El Salvador, especially now that we are busy safeguarding the electoral process in our country."

"Those reports are illogical. We have not intervened, and we will not intervene," the source said.

According to the military spokesman, the FMLN guerrillas are trying to get the Honduran Army involved in the Salvadoran conflict "to build up an international image."

This year the FMLN has reported several alleged incursions of Honduran troops into Salvadoran border towns, in support of the Salvadoran Armed Forces.

Government Note on Demobilization of Contras

PA3011184889 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 30 Nov 89 p 48

[Text] The Press and Information Directorate of the Foreign Relations Ministry hereby publishes the note sent on 28 November to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto by Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras. The note reads:
Tegucigalpa, 29 November, 1989
His Excellency Mr Miguel D'Escoto Brockmann
Nicaraguan Foreign Minister
Managua, Nicaragua
Mr Minister:

I am pleased to greet Your Excellency. I wish to refer to your note dated 24 November, containing regrettable, undiplomatic expressions that show the absence of truth and arguments in your favor.

The letter sent by Your Excellency to which I am referring does not answer the issues questioned. In other words, the concentration of Sandinist troops on the Honduran border, the threatened use of force, the violation of Honduran sovereignty, and the Sandinist proposal to expel its revolutionary opposition.

Mr Minister, demobilization consists of disarming the combatants at their current sites. Therefore, if the anti-Sandinist forces are in Nicaragua—as your government clearly expressed in the most recent proposal sent to the Nicaraguan Resistance during talks held under the International Commission on Support and Verification (CIAV)—the anti-Sandinist forces should be demobilized in Nicaragua. All this would be the result of negotiations on the cease-fire, national reconciliation and democratization, and in compliance with the Esquipulas II commitments.

I am pleased to see that the Nicaraguan Government expects the electoral process in Honduras to take place normally. The Honduran Government shares this view, and hopes the Nicaraguan electoral process will conclude with free and honest elections that express the true will of the Nicaraguan people.

I have also taken note of the statements in your message saying that the Nicaraguan Government has no intention to use threats or force against Honduras. To ensure this, my government has requested the presence of UN observers at the appropriate border area.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my utmost consideration.

Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras, Information and Press Directorate, Foreign Relations Ministry, Republic of Honduras.

Soviet Delegation Denies Sale of Arms to Area

PA0112034389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1807 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—A delegation from the Soviet Committee of Solidarity with Latin America today denied in Honduras that the Soviet Union is selling arms to Central America and Panama to stir up points of confrontation with the United States.

In a conference on the scope of perestroyka (restructuring), sponsored by the state university, Soviets Igor Ribalkin, Mikhail Orlov, and Karen Jachaturov pointed out that the Soviet Union "is not fanning the fires of war in this area in conflict." The Soviets described as "false" the reports accusing the Soviet Union of supplying arms to rebel groups and the Panamanian Government through Cuba and Nicaragua. "We favor dialogue, not violence," the delegation spokesman said.

He added: "There are no diplomatic or other kind of relations with Panama. Regarding Nicaragua, we trust the February 1990 elections will confirm the Nicaraguan people's democratic will."

The source said: "The restructuring and opening established in the Soviet Union has to do not only with its domestic affairs, but with its foreign relations as well." He also said: "We must underline the fact that the Soviet Union seeks to avoid a confrontation, not only between the big powers, but between the peoples of the so-called Third World."

The Soviet delegation intends to hold several meetings with Honduran businessmen, political leaders, union leaders, and intellectuals to explain the meaning of perestroyka. This would the first event of this kind in Honduras.

Nicaragua

Government Not To Grant Visas to U.S. Observers

PA0112032089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0130 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] Managua, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan Government will not grant visas or credentials to the U.S. mission appointed by President George Bush to observe the electoral process in Nicaragua.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said tonight that the delegation of U.S. observers "is totally discredited" because it was organized by the U.S. President himself. "We have told the U.S. Government on various occasions that, given the current status of our relations, the appointment of any delegation of official observers is totally unacceptable," D'Escoto added.

D'Escoto made the statement the same day that the U.S. Congress approved the continuation of logistical support to the "contras" based in camps in Honduras. According to D'Escoto, this support consists of approximately $30 million, which is used to purchase uniforms, boots, field tents, mosquito nets, radios, and food for the rebels. The assistance will allow the contras to continue infiltrating into Nicaragua "to murder our people and to try to create confusion during the electoral process," D'Escoto noted.

He explained that the Sandinist government will continue offering complete cooperation to the organizations and personalities who are in Nicaragua as electoral observers. The foreign minister said that these observers, who arrived in Nicaragua before October, meet the requirements because they are experienced, honest, and absolutely impartial.

The electoral campaign in Nicaragua will open on Monday, 4 December, and close on 21 February. The voting will be on 25 February.

UN Delegation Rejects Salvadoran Accusations

PA3011231089 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1956 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The Nicaraguan delegation at the United Nations has put the Salvadoran Government representative, who accused Nicaragua of providing weapons to the Salvadoran guerrilla movement, in his place.

Through its delegate, Victoria Castillo, Nicaragua reiterated our country's principle of nonintervention and its respect for and compliance with the Central American agreements before the UN Security Council, which is holding a meeting requested by El Salvador.

We will first listen to the statements made by the Salvadoran ambassador before the United Nations, Ricardo Castaneda:

[Begin Castaneda recording] Mr President, my delegation believes that the proposal presented by Nicaragua this morning is totally unacceptable. I could have presented another proposal regarding Nicaragua, but I did not. I did not do so simply because the purpose of this meeting is to warn Nicaragua of the problem it is getting into for its interference in Salvadoran domestic affairs. The purpose of this meeting is to warn Nicaragua that there are legal means, international treaties, and an International Court of Justice, which it has resorted to before. The purpose of this meeting is also to tell Nicaragua to stop that dangerous game, because otherwise, they will weep like women over what they could not defend like men. [end recording]

After those statements, Nicaraguan representative Victoria Castillo began her speech. The UN Security Council meeting continues this afternoon.

[Begin Castillo recording, in progress] .... almost pressured for the establishment of mechanisms for impartial international unification to avoid the distortion of Central America's reality. Others, not Nicaragua, opposed this mechanism. We stood alone. The only report issued by the International Verification and Follow-Up Commission [CIAV] displeased more than one Central American foreign minister. Thus, they ended forever the role that would have been played by the commission formed by the Contadora Group foreign ministers and by the secretary generals of the United Nations and OAS, to ensure the regional agreements' fulfillment.

For those who are attempting to distort the facts, I must say that I really am not surprised that the distinguished Salvadoran ambassador attaches little importance to the issue or says that this is not the adequate forum to discuss the real and clear situation in the continent now, or wants to discuss the violation of human rights in El Salvador, which has been authentically proven by recent events.

I would remind those who believe that this is not the forum to discuss these situations, that they should be consistent. Where, then, is their human rights policy or does that policy have a double standard? [preceding word in English]. I regret the deaths of the people referred to by the Salvadoran representative because one life is worth a hundred, but this does not justify the generalized violence that has been unleashed under the direction of the Salvadoran Government and Army. We cannot shelter certain crimes under the umbrella of constitutionality.

Nicaragua reiterates to the international community its adherence to the principle of nonintervention, pledges to respect and faithfully fulfill the spirit and letter of the regional agreements, and to hold the summit of Central American presidents in the Nicaraguan capital, in accordance with the Tela agreements. Nicaragua likewise pledges to continue developing the electoral process that will culminate on 25 February with elections in Nicaragua. [end recording]

UNO's Godoy Loses Parliamentary Immunity

PA3011201089 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1935 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Virgilio Godoy, UNO [National Opposition Union] vice presidential candidate and Independent Liberal Party president, was stripped of his parliamentarian immunity this afternoon on the request of several of his fellow bloc members who are demanding that he clarify how FRG donations for a party organization were spent.

Godoy could now face common tribunals, and this could in turn harm his electoral campaign. The stripping of Godoy's immunity has started or reinforced rumors that he will resign from his vice presidential candidacy and be replaced by Alfredo Cesar or Enrique Bolanos.

UNO Protests Trial

PA3011181989 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Opposition Union; date and place not given; read by Independent Liberal Party Leader Jaime Bonilla—live]

[Text] In view of the disinformation campaign promoted by the ruling party to discredit our vice presidential candidate, Dr Virgilio Godoy Reyes, the Nicaraguan National Opposition Union [UNO] reports the following to the local and international community:

1. The usual attitude of the [words indistinct] ruling party has been to promote by themselves or through third parties campaigns against opposition leaders seeking to eliminate them from local politics. At this time, this repeated repressive attitude makes one doubt the alleged policy of reconciliation—a commitment of the Nicaraguan Government in accordance with the Central American Peace Agreements.

2. The trial promoted by the government of President Ortega. National Assembly President Commander [Carlos] Nunez, and the Assembly Secretary [Rafael] Solis against our vice presidential candidate, Dr Virglio Godoy Reyes, urges Godoy to go into self-exile and threatens him with jail. This is common in this country, where the judicial branch is also in the hands of the [words indistinct] Leninist Party. We report that this is one of the methods used by the government to undermine the current electoral process. Political trials are methods promoted by the dictatorial regime against

thousands of opposition members, for whom there has been no justice even if the law proves them right.

3. The [Friedrich] Naumann foundation has issued a statement expressing its satisfaction with its relationship with Dr Godoy. This is sufficient evidence for the UNO to strongly demand the government drop any charges against Dr Godoy.

4. We report that the trial against our vice presidential candidate is part of a government plan against all UNO candidates, which includes direct threats to deputy and council candidates, to force them to resign. This plan seeks to discredit the opposition alliance at the local and international level.

[Signed] All political party members of UNO

Chamorro Asks Gorbachev To Support Elections

PA0112012289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0015 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] Managua, 30 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—Violeta Chamorro, presidential candidate for the Nicaraguan opposition, has asked Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to "exert all his political and moral authority to ensure the survival of the electoral process" in Nicaragua.

In a letter published today in the newspaper LA PRENSA, which she owns, Chamorro also asked the Soviet leader for his "solidarist support" in Nicaragua's reconstruction, and she asked him to stop sending weapons to this Central American country.

The candidate for the National Opposition Union (UNO) said, "starting today, I request your support, aware that the USSR should participate in our economic reconstruction and co-guarantee national reconciliation, which will be the secure foundation upon which our democracy will rest."

Chamorro said that when the UNO, a 14-party coalition, wins the elections on 25 February 1990 "as I am sure will happen, we will need the USSR's solidarist support."

"I must give you (Gorbachev) and all the Soviet people assurances that my government will work without rest to promote peace throughout Central America," she said.

The opposition leader pointed out to Gorbachev that "what Nicaragua needs least of all are weapons," and "I beg you to firmly support us when we ask all the countries to immediately suspend their shipments of weapons to our fatherland."

In the letter Chamorro said that "over the past 2 weeks, I have requested the same solidarity of European leaders and President (George) Bush, and they have all given me assurances of their best efforts in favor of this just and noble cause."

Chamorro congratulated Gorbachev, who will meet with U.S. President Bush on 2 December in Maltese waters for "the changes" he "has directed in the USSR, and prompted in Hungary, Poland, and the GDR."

Chamorro on Changes Supported by UNO

PA0112020189 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, presidential candidate of the National Opposition Union [UNO], has said in Ciudad Dario that, if they are united, all Nicaraguans can have schools instead of garrisons.

There will be no more confiscations, imprisonments, or reprisals because UNO can reconcile Nicaraguans and bring peace to the country. Here is an excerpt of Dona Violeta's statements:

[Begin Chamorro recording, in progress]... is doing this so you will not vote for me. I ask you not to pay attention to them. [applause] [indistinct shouts]

We discuss things freely in UNO because we are democratic. We want a democratic system and will build one. It is a system of tolerance rather than oppression; a system of love rather than hatred; a system of debate instead of military power; it is a system of freedom rather than forceful military mobilization. Persons, parties, ideas, and the free work of the people is what makes a nation great. The dictatorship, the (?submission) to the powerful, and the control of civilian life at the garrisons is what leads to spiritual ruin and to the [word indistinct] poverty of our people. [shouts of "Viva Dona Violeta" and "Viva UNO"] [applause]

We have learned this during the last 50 years and particularly during the last 10 somber years of our history. We are united because we love freedom. We are united because we are strong. We are united because we are capable of governing and [words indistinct]. We do not hate, but tolerate. If we are united and strong, we can even extend our hands to the adversary. We tell our adversary in all frankness: do not be afraid, there will be no further political vengeance in Nicaragua. There will be no more confiscations in Nicaragua. There will be no more pressures on officials and public employees. There will be no more reprisals against those who think differently.

UNO can change things. UNO can reconcile Nicaraguans. UNO can bring peace to Nicaragua. UNO can achieve economic recovery. UNO can make Nicaragua a republic again. This was the hope of my husband, Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. Thank you very much. [applause] [end recording]

Editorial Criticizes Ortega Activities

PA3011231489 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Nov 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Warmongering Daniel Ortega"]

[Text] Speaking with a tone of voice that showed his personal satisfaction for having disrupted the Central American peace efforts, Daniel Ortega made the most irresponsible statements when referring to President Cristiani's decision, announced on the afternoon of 25 November, to break relations between the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan Governments. Ortega celebrated that decision with an election rally in Somotillo last weekend.

More than a president or a presidential candidate, Ortega looked like a frantic man and at times he looked almost as if he had ingested too much of some kind of drug. He looked as if he had suddenly been given an excuse to begin the war again by resuming military and harassment operations against the peaceful opposition; by ending the dialogue with the RN [Nicaraguan Resistance]; by the assertions against Honduras and Costa Rica; by supporting the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front]; by his association with General Noriega; and other actions leading to the noncompliance of the agreements signed on behalf of Central America peace and the democratization of Nicaragua.

The Sandinist government's resumption of the war was previously planned. The Sandinists knew that the frequent flow of weapons and military material that they had sent to the FMLN in El Salvador could not be hidden forever. The Cessna plane coming from Nicaragua and loaded with military materiel including Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles proves that the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] is the promoter of war in Central America and, therefore, there will not be peace as long as it remains in power.

The suspending of relations between El Salvador and Nicaragua—forced by the export of war that characterizes the FSLN—harms the Esquipulas, Costa Del Sol, and Tela agreements and benefits the Sandinists. That suspension in relations, however, also makes Central America the first point on the agenda of President George Bush and General Secretary of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev at their Mediterranean summit on 4 December.

If anything has become clear after the Cessna plane accident, it is the existence of a double game in the Soviet foreign policy on Central America. While the USSR preaches peace and states that it hopes to attain peace through civilized and peaceful means in Eastern Europe, it will apparently continue arming the Sandinist government in Central America until the entire region is at war. Only a clear and forceful statement by the Soviet Union, at the upcoming summit, freeing itself from all responsibilities in the matter and directly blaming Nicaragua and Cuba for the war, could contribute to the restablishment of a certain balance in Central America. That balance is necessary for reaching a regional solution which agrees with the peaceful and democratic tendecies that move the world today.

The internal consequences of the Sandinist maneuver are predictable. By breaking the Central American peace agreements, the FSLN is not seeking to isolate Cristiani. On the contrary, it is seeking its own isolation thereby enabling it to act against the election process and to suspend it through terror without being punished for it. We cannot expect anything different from people who continue acting like terrorists against their own people. That is why Nicaraguans reject Sandinism and support UNO [National Opposition Union] as the only option for peace. This will have to be taken into account by those who will have to make definitive decisions regarding the Central American situation at the Mediterranean summit over the next few days.

FSLN, Opposition Agree To Stop Mob Behavior

PA0112015889 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1130 GMT 16 Nov 89

[Text] An important agreement has been signed to stop the actions of mobs in Region VI. The agreement was signed by opposition parties and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] in front of Interior Ministry representatives and OAS, United Nations, and Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] observers.

A report notes that the political parties of Region VI, including the FSLN, in line with a sincere commitment based on political honesty, have agreed to instruct their militants to strictly comply with electoral laws and ethics and to practice mutual respect.

Let us hope that aggressive activists are hearing this. They are already planning to carry out harsh measures against the opposition in the forthcoming rally in Nandaime.

The Region VI agreement was reached after situations of violence called for better civic behavior.

The signers of the agreement are [name indistinct], of the Independent Liberal Party; Kaiser Hernandez, of the [word indistinct]; Carlos Zamora Herrera, of the FSLN; [name indistinct], coordinator of the National Opposition Union [UNO]; Jose Antonio Montiel Vega, and Jose Ivan Rivera Medina, legal representatives of the FSLN; Santiago Ulises de Rivas, legal representative of UNO; Cuadras Zeledon Rocha, president of the CSE of region VI; and Roberto Gonzalez, the region's deputy police chief.

This agreement sets an excellent precedent in a region that endures unrest and represents a good effort contributing to the civic development of the elections process.

We hope that this agreement is complied with and that it serves as an example for other regions of the country for the benefit of Nicaraguan civic life.

Miskito Leaders To Join Electoral Process

PA3011230289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2202 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—Five Nicaraguan Indian leaders announced in Costa Rica today that they will return to Nicaragua on 30 November, to participate in the electoral process that will end with the 25 February 1990 elections.

The Indians—who belong to the KISAN [Nicaragua Atlantic Coast Indigenous People, in Miskito indian language] movement—represent several ethnic groups of the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast, and, according to a communique, their repatriation is intended to incorporate their sectors "into the civic struggle for democracy being held in Nicaragua."

The KISAN leaders are Coordinator Rafael Zelaya, Representatives Douglas Hunter and Eduardo Zelaya, and Indian Youth Representatives Juan Mungia Siles and David Reyes.

Several political leaders, including "contra" leaders, who had left Nicaragua when the Sandinist revolution was victorious in July 1979, have already returned to Nicaragua to join the political struggle.

Recent Government-Contra Clashes Reported

Ministry on 25-26 Nov Clashes

PA3011183989 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Nov 89 p 2

[Text] Four contras and one civilian were killed and two citizens were kidnapped as a result of recent actions by terrorist mercenaries in various parts of the country—including Matagalpa, Jinotega, and Boaco—on 25 and 26 November.

According to an official Defense Ministry report, two civilians were kidnapped by the Somozists in Cerro Grande, southeast of Camoapa, in Boaco.

Patricio Cornejo Herrera, 75, was killed during a clash between the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] and mercenary troops in El Bijagual, north of San Sebastian de Yali, Jinotega Department.

The report added that two contras were killed during a clash at El Congo Hill, north of Matiguas, Matagalpa Department.

A mercenary was killed when a group of criminals ambushed an EPS patrol in La Juliana Hill, southeast of Bocana de Paiwas.

Another Yankee mercenary died during a clash with EPS troops in Cano Chacalin, southeast of the Carlos Fonseca neighborhood in the South Atlantic region. The EPS confiscated three rifles and two knapsacks from the mercenaries.

In addition, the EPS seized grenade launchers, one rocket, one knapsack, and one rifle from the Somozist mercenaries during clashes in El Guayabo Hill near Mulukuku, Matagalpa.

Clashes in Wiwili

PA3011183789 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 29 Nov 89 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Defense Ministry has reported that 13 contras were killed by EPS [Sandinist People's Army] troops during recent clashes.

On 25 November, EPS troops killed two contras and recovered two AK rifles and two knapsacks during clashes in Quebrada Grande, southeast of the Nueva Guinea neighbhorhood.

One contra was killed and an AK rifle was seized during a clash in Arenal, southeast of San Juan de Bocay on 26 November.

Six contras were killed in Jicote, southeast of Wiwili, Jinotega Department on 28 November while four other contras were killed in Arenal on 27 November.

The EPS also confiscated one AK rifle, one .22-caliber pistol, one radio, and four knapsacks. On 25 November, contras entered El Portillo in Camoapa, where they stole watches and several flashlights.

Joint Economic Commission With Libya Meets

PA3011174089 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] The second session of the Libya-Nicaragua mixed commission was installed. Farhat Sharnanah, the chief of the Libyan delegation, said that his country is trying to develop strong and stable economic cooperation with Nicaragua.

The second session of the mixed commission was inaugurated by Foreign Cooperation Minister Henry Ruiz and Dr Farhat Sharnanah, economy and trade secretary of Libya.

[Begin Ruiz recording] The relations between the people of Libya and Nicaragua are relations of solidarity, they are the friendly and brotherly relations of two peoples, who are fighting for their self-determination, independence, and national sovereignty. [end recording]

In 1981, Libya granted a credit for $100,000 to contribute toward the palance of payments. On this occasion, an agreement was signed to create a mixed company in the field of agriculture.

In 1984, a credit of $15 million in crude oil was granted to Nicaragua.

[Begin Shernanah recording, in Arabic with simultaneous translation into Spanish] The Nicaraguan revolution and the Libyan revolution [words indistinct] principles. They are two nations fighting for common principles. [end recording]

This week, the Libyan delegation will visit important projects such as Victoria de Julio and Montelimar. In addition, it will meet with President Daniel Ortega and government ministers.

Panama

Government, Opposition Assail U.S. Ban on Ships

PA0112011089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0022 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] Panama City, 30 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Panamanian Government and the opposition today came out against the U.S. decision, announced today, to ban Panamanian-flag vessels from U.S. ports beginning 1 February.

Renato Pereira, government and justice minister, told ACAN-EFE that "this is a violation of the letter and spirit of the latest OAS resolutions" on the Panamanian conflict. Pereira said that the White House decision "is a violation of international law," adding that "the government will survive this measure."

Panama ranks, after Liberia, second in the world—with 12,000 vessels—in registration of vessels, and the income derived by the government and private firms from this business totals $80 million annually.

Ricardo Arias Calderon, who is one of the main opposition leaders, said he is "opposed to new sanctions" by the United States. In a brief statement to ACAN-EFE, Arias recalled a document released by the opposition 29 November in which it said that "additional sanctions will certainly increase unemployment and poverty, which are already reaching dramatic levels." The opposition leaders added on 29 November that "the general U.S. sanctions have worsened the crisis, although they have not caused it."

Pereira also said that U.S. President George Bush's decision "reveals Washington's desperation in view of the Panamanian Government's determination to defend the country's dignity and sovereignty." The government minister added that "the ones who are most affected by the banning of Panamanian-flag vessels from calling at U.S. ports are the large law firms, all of which are linked to the opposition."

Canal Toll Increase, Other Actions Criticized

PA0112035989 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 23 Nov 89 pp 1, 13

[Text] Violations of the Panama Canal Treaty, especially the violations having to do with the appointment of a new canal administrator, uncoordinated toll increases, and other abusive actions by the United States, were criticized at the Rio Mar Expo XIP [expansion unknown] conference taking place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The Panama issue emerged at this meeting of Latin American shipowners, when Fernando Manfredo delivered his speech. At the conclusion of his speech, Manfredo was questioned by Balboa Shipyard General Manager Rigoberto Paredes, a well-known former Panamanian Legislative Assembly member.

Jose Gonzalez Villasis, president of the Latin American Association of Ship-Owners also spoke at the packed conference.

Manfredo spoke about "The Importance of the Panama Canal for Latin America's Economy." He discussed the issue of the canal administrator, the toll increase, and world inflation.

In discussing the first issue, Fernando Manfredo said that "the next canal administrator must be Panamanian."

Rigoberto Paredes used the question and answer period to clarify Manfredo's statement by explaining to the audience that it is true that the next administrator must be Panamanian, but it is also true that he must be assigned by Panama.

The deputy administrator of the canal (finally) agreed with that.

Regarding the unjustified canal toll increase, Rigoberto Paredes told the Latin American shipowners that Panama did not participate in the meeting in which the Canal Commission authorized the toll increase. He said: "Panama has protested because it is of the opinion that there is no justification for the toll increase, a decision adopted unilaterally" by the United States. Here the deputy canal administrator had to admit that Panama was not considered by the United States when the toll increase was decreed."

Rigoberto Paredes said that Panama is concerned with the way the canal is being managed "because the economy of the users of the canal is negatively affected whenever there is an increase in the tolls."

Regarding this, Paredes mentioned the cases of Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Chile, and Brazil.

Paredes also objected to a statement by Manfredo on relations between the two countries "that," Manfredo said, "have not found a way to resolve their differences." Rigoberto Paredes noted that "this is not a matter of simple differences between two governments, but of a unilateral aggression by the United States against Panama."

Treaty Affairs Director on New Canal Appointment

PA3011185789 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1151 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The appointment of any Panamanian [as the Panama Canal Commission administrator], who has not been proposed by the Legislative Assembly, is a violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and Panama does not have to seek another alternative, said Captain Severino Mejia from the DEPAT [Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate].

[Begin Mejia recording] The appointment of any other Panamanian is a violation [of the treaties], even though they [the United States] may say he is a Panamanian, who has to occupy that position. The fundamental condition—and it was made very clear in the treaties—is that he must be proposed by the Panamanian Government, not by the Americans who want to appoint a certain person just because he is a Panamanian. That is not the way to do it. The Legislative Assembly appointed Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque and he is the person who must occupy that post beginning on 1 January 1990. [end recording]

Foreign Minister on Costa Rican 'Mercenary Band'

PA3011230089 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 28 Nov 89 p A-1

[Text] Panama City (DPA)—On 27 November, Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam commented on the arrest of a group of foreigners and Panamanians who were attempting to form a rebel group in Costa Rica. He said that the event confirmed his government's reports that "mercenary bands were preparing to destabilize Panama" from Costa Rican territory.

Kam noted: "Internationally, it is reprehensible that a country would lend its territory—openly or covertly—for subversive or destabalizing actions against the territorial integrity or sovereignty of another nation."

The Panamanian foreign minister asserted that the situation was "an open secret" because many of the people, who appear as the leaders of the mentioned rebel group, had made public statements announcing their "mercenary" plans against Panama.

However, the foreign minister estimated that this event in Costa Rica "still does not have the prominence to merit charges at the International Court of Justice at The Hague." He also said that the Panamanian Government will use the appropriate diplomatic channels to discuss the matter with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias.

Commission To View Costa Rican Border Issue

PA0112020289 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] A special commission from the Government and Justice Ministry, instructed by Minister Dr Renato Pereira, will travel to the Costa Rican border area to investigate certain incidents that have been taking place and have the potential to create serious border disputes with grave repercussions. Lack of adequate border markings have caused conflicts between Costa Ricans and Panamanians due to land tenancy and deteriorating relations between the neighbors of each country. There have even been military situations in which the Costa Rican Government has made it appear as if its territory was violated; this was later proven false. Minister Pereira said he has told Renacimineto District Mayor (Aurelio Serracin) and the local representatives that the border markers will be installed again because many are missing due to road building or people who have removed them for their own advantage.

Costa Rican population growth on both sides of the border, especially on the Costa Rican side, has resulted in construction of more houses and other buildings such as stores, bars, markets, etc., on land whose ownership is contested because there are no reference points. The trip to the border will take place within the next few hours.

Human Rights Leader on Threats to Members

PA0112031889 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Nov 89

["Exclusive" interview with Jose Manuel Faundes, secretary general of the Panamanian Human Rights Committee by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] We have interviewed a very prominent member of the Panamanian Human Rights Committee [CCPDH], Dr Jose Manuel Faundes. We would like to ask him what his opinion is regarding the Panamanian Government's statement, as announced by the General State Council, that it will not be responsible for the security of the main opposition leaders, and their national and foreign contributors, and what he thinks about an alleged list that has appeared in the international media, threatening immediate execution should anything happen to Mr Noriega?

[Faundes] The so-called president of our country, Panama, will be held responsible before history and international justice for any physical attack against any Panamanian who does not have, as they say, connections with the military regime that rules the country. The General State Council's position of overtly promoting crime is very dangerous.

In the penal law, this is called abetting a crime. To abet a crime is to promote [words indistinct] the execution of a physical attack on others, to the extreme of killing them.

Never in world history—to the best of my knowledge—not even in Africa, Asia, or our America, has a dictatorial or nondictatorial government which is not the product of a popular election dared to issue such a decree. This decree, stemming from a General State Council, and signed by the provisional president and the members of

the Cabinet, announces that they will physically attack and even execute all opposition party leaders and members in case anything, including an accident, happens to Mr Manuel Antonio Noriega. All those whom they believe have ties with U.S. citizens, either through the U.S. Embassy in Panama or other means, will be executed.

This is dangerous, and it has stunned the entire world, not only Panamanians. We have been told that the international news agencies have had such an impact that all [words indistinct] for a call of a nation of our American hemisphere.

[Reporter] We have learned that there are several members of the CPPDH who might be on the list. These are people who are defending human rights, which includes the right to have their physical integrity protected, according to the Universal Human Rights Declaration and the American Convention on Human Rights. What can you tell us regarding this possible threat to members of the CPPDH who are on this alleged list, according to CODEPADI [Committee for the Defense of the Fatherland and Dignity], Dignity Battallions, and General Manuel Antonio Noriega supporters, if anything happens to Noriega?

[Faundes] The CPPDH presided over by Dr Oswaldo Velasquez [words indistinct] convened today in an extraordinary session to debate the problem posed by the government regarding the death threats in the event anything happens to Mr Manuel Antonio Noriega. I repeat before history, justice, and before the Lord that the only person responsible will be the so-called representative of the country as provisional president.

He will be primarily responsible, that is, if he does not get fired along the way. I repeat before the eyes of the people, and Panamanian and international justice that he and the other members of the Cabinet will answer for the sad consequences derived from that government action.

Electricity Director on Debt, Maintenance Problems

PA3011230189 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Benjamin Colamarco, director general of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification [IRHE], today reported that IRHE customers nationwide owe $49 million and that the illegal use of electricity amounts to nearly $20 million. He assessed that institution's situation in the reverted canal areas:

[Begin Colamarco recording] We have implemented a campaign to cut off electricity during our aggressive drive to collect debts in view of the basic institutional needs that are essential to our country's development.

In the reverted areas, we are facing several problems. We can summarize them as follows: First, when those areas were reverted to Panama, we were not given the area's layout of the electrical distribution lines, and this creates maintenance problems for IRHE. Second, the U.S. Armed Forces are limiting our access to the electrical transmission towers within the reverted areas. They are not allowing us to conduct our regular maintenance operations in that area in violation of IRHE workers' right to maintain transmission lines, especially the 230-line [not further identified] coming from Llano Sanchez to the Panama Substation. [end recording]

Newspaper Column Recommends Wage Deductions

PA3011184089 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 28 Nov 89 p 5

[From the "Scoops" column]

[Text] The fact that it is becoming increasingly difficult for the government to meet its payroll because of the intensification of U.S. terrorist actions, boycott, and psychological and military actions against our country is undeniable. Therefore, it is necessary to implement provisional heroic measures so that the Panamanian people can live decently. In that regard, we can all give a small contribution.

"Scoops" recommends, first of all, cutting the salaries of government officials who earn the most. We also recommend that a small percentage of the salaries of those who earn less be "deducted" from their salaries. This can be done with the condition that the amounts deducted will be reimbursed through government bonds or promissory notes, which would be backed by the Panamanian funds criminally "frozen" by the United States. Logically, those bonds could be negotiated in the local businesses at attractive interest rates.

Health Minister Signs Joint Agreement With Libya

PA3011230389 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Panama and Libya have agreed to exchange information in drafting a joint technical plan in the medical and food production sectors, Health Minister Jose Renan Esquivel reported during a news conference this morning. This agreement was reached during Dr Esquivel's visit to Libya last week.

The agreement calls for a delegation from the Libyan enterprise manufacturing medical supplies used in therapy—from the Libyan Health Secretariat—to visit Panama soon, to observe available facilities for production and determine the areas of cooperation. Another Libyan delegation will also travel to Panama to participate in the preparation of an overall health plan. Dr Esquivel also reported that Libya and Panama have agreed to strengthen relations between health experts from the two countries, and to link the Panamanian and Libyan health institutions through brief exchange visits to conduct surgery, attend to special cases, give lectures, and participate in seminars. The two countries also

agreed to further cooperation in basic medical care and to exchange information on medicaments and preventive medicine plans.

[Begin Esquivel recording] The two countries have signed an agreement. The Libyans will visit us, as we visited them. We extended an invitation to the Libyan health minister to visit us. We will hold talks. Panama has made progress in many sectors, especially the technical sector regarding preventive medicine, statistics, etc. [end recording]

Argentina

Official Denies National Role in El Salvador

PY0112030589 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 01 Dec 89

[Text] Raul Carignano, Argentine Foreign Ministry secretary for Latin American affairs, has said in a news conference that Argentine policy in Central America does not provide for any major role for Argentina in that region. He stressed that the Argentine Government will not mediate in El Salvador's internal conflict.

Carignano, who hosted a news conference at the Foreign Ministry this afternoon, mentioned the Group of Eight meeting scheduled for 4-5 December in Buenos Aires and the planned attendance of the foreign affairs and economic and planning ministers of the Group of Eight countries.

Regarding Argentina's position on the Central American situation, Carignano reiterated that President Carlos Menem has already offered Buenos Aires as the host city for a presidential summit of the five Central American countries. He noted that this offer could be an invaluable Argentine contribution to Central American peace and, if the summit is held here, we will not even send observers to the meeting.

Argentina has only offered to host the meeting, which will provide the best chance to establish peace after the intensification of the violence in El Salvador, he said.

Carignano added that no mediation is currently taking place but that the Argentine Government is very concerned about the violence unleashed in that country. This prompted President Menem to contact his colleague Alfredo Cristiani to outline his opinion on the conflict and suggest the need to hold a presidential summit.

Carignano said that only through a presidential summit will it be possible to build a lasting internal peace in El Salvador and that Argentina will propose a date for the meeting only after consulting with the interested countries.

Regarding the Group of Eight meeting, which will be held at the Alvear Hotel here in Buenos Aires, Carignano confirmed the attendance of foreign ministers and finance and planning ministers of seven of the Group of Eight countries. He explained that the meeting will not deal with the Central American issue.

He explained that the agenda for the Permanent Mechanism for Consultation and Political Coordination—which is the real name of the Group of Eight—will include replacing quotas with tariffs, obtaining financial resources for integration, removing physical obstacles that hinder integration—especially in the transportation and communications sector—and identifying specific economic cooperation projects.

The group will begin its deliberations at 0930 on 4 December and will end them on the morning of 5 December with the attendance of President Menem, who will share a working breakfast with the delegations.

We will repeat the information on the mediation in El Salvador: Raul Carignano has said that the Argentine policy for Central America does not provide for any major Argentine role in that region and that the Argentine Government is not participating in any mediation of the Salvadoran conflict. He reiterated President Menem's offer to host a summit of the five Central American presidents in Buenos Aires. This summit might be arranged after the completion of a round of consultations now being held by the Argentine Foreign Ministry.

President Menem Meets British Trade Delegation

PY0112122389 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Excerpt] President Carlos Menem has received a British trade delegation. He also met with UCR [Radical Civic Union] Senator Fernando de La Rua. Tomorrow he is scheduled to meet with his Cabinet. Marta Lopez will give us further details on the president's activities from Government House. Good evening, Marta.

Good evening. President Menem has received the British trade delegation led by Lord David Montgomery. The main subject of discussion was the interest in resuming commercial ties between Argentina and Great Britain. Lord Montgomery has stated that they visited several sectors in which UK businessmen are willing to invest. He said that the two countries could trade in manufactured products and in material for industry maintenance. He also referred to investments in new areas and to exports of Argentine products to Great Britain. [passage omitted]

Mining of Uranium Deposit in Cordoba Discontinued

PY3011192489 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Nov 89 p 8

[Text] Cordoba—Manuel Mondino, the chairman of the National Commission for Atomic Energy (CNEA), has reported that the mining of the Los Gigantes uranium deposit has been discontinued. He made his report to Architect Jose Luis Ramos, the Cordoba Province public works and services minister. Mondino also assumed the responsibility for achieving the ecologic recovery of the Los Gigantes area, which has been contaminated by spills of liquids from the Los Gigantes mine.

Operations in the mine were discontinued because of the low profitability arising from the "low ore grade" of the mineral extracted from the mine. Sanchez Granel S.C., the contracting company, and the CNEA have agreed to discontinue the operations for 3 months, with the option to extend this period for another 3 months.

The contract states that the Sanchez Granel company will be in charge of the ecologic reclamation of the mining area, a clause that applies in case of the termination of the contract. This project involves both removing polluting waste and reducing the level of chemical elements in the storage pools.

Mondino also indicated that in the agreement, the Sanchez Granel company has agreed to keep a 20-man crew to maintain and protect the facilities. It was also reported that during the next few days CNEA technicians will inspect the Los Gigantes plant to prevent any future accident.

It is noteworthy that the spills of polluting liquids from the plant have contaminated the neighboring rivers and creeks whose waters then flow into the San Roque Lake, which supplies drinking water to the estimated 1.3 million inhabitants of Cordoba.

Minister Ramos has announced that, in late November 1989, an agreement will be signed in Cordoba between the Cordoba provincial government and the CNEA to form a mixed company, including private capital, that will be in charge of the construction of the pools and reservoirs of a future Cobalt-60 processing plant in the Embalse Rio Tercero area. This plant was planned by the previous government.

Brazil

Sarney Cancels Appointments for Heart Checkup

PY0112002289 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Today President Jose Sarney suspended his scheduled activities because of health problems.

Sarney was scheduled to grant separate audiences to nine lawmakers, Rio Grande do Sul Governor Pedro Simon, Cuiaba Prefect Federico Campos, foreign authorities, presidential advisers, the chief of the SNI [National Service for Intelligence], and the chief of the military household.

According to Colonel Messias de Araujo, the Planalto Palace doctor, the pains that Sarney felt in his spinal column were provoked by an arterial hypertension condition.

The president became ill yesterday after lunch, when he felt indisposed, sleepy, and uncomfortable. He also had a headache and muscle fatigue, which influenced his spinal column.

Despite his condition, he went to Planalto Palace and left at 1910, earlier than usual. When the president awoke this morning, he was not in good condition and was immediately seen by his private doctor, Messias de Araujo.

After taking medicine, the president rested and canceled his audiences. The president's doctor, however, requested the presence in Brasilia of two doctors of the Sao Paulo heart institute, Incor. They were neurologist Nilberto Scazzi and cardiologist Giovanni Pinotti. After running an electrocardiogram on the president, they reported that Sarney is doing well.

Despite the fact that he canceled his agenda, the president met with Presidential Civilian Household Chief Ronaldo Costa Couto and signed several decrees. Tomorrow morning Sarney is scheduled to meet the Brasilia diplomatic corps at Planalto Palace for an end-of-year ceremony.

Christian Democratic Party To Support Collor

PY3011172189 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The PDC, the Christian Democratic Party, will support Fernando Collor.

This morning, PDC congressmen met to draw up a document in which they express support for the PRN [National Reconstruction Party] candidate.

The PDC has 14 deputies and 3 senators.

Collor Does Not Intend To Dissolve SNI

PY3011180689 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Nov 89 p 5

[Report by Jose Paulo da Silva and Roberto Pumar]

[Text] Despite having threatened—as governor of Alagoas—to dissolve the National Service for Intelligence (SNI) if he became president of the Republic, PRN [National Reconstruction Party] candidate Fernando Collor de Mello has now said that he will not dissolve this organization.

If elected, he intends to entrust the SNI with the task of collecting information on the image of Brazil abroad, mainly information on foreign and economic issues.

Collor has visited Rio de Janeiro several times to discuss this subject with active and retired military officers including General Oswaldo Muniz Oliva, the War College (ESG) commander and the father of economist Aluisio Mercadante—the main economic adviser of Worker's Party candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Collor met with Gen Oliva last May, in a friend's house in southern Rio de Janeiro. A group of businessmen participated in this meeting, which lasted several hours.

Collor asked Oliva to get an expert group from the ESG to prepare a socioeconomic program for his administration. According to military sources, Collor was enthusiastic over Gen Oliva's attitude, and he intends to appoint him Army commander if elected. Collor is impressed with Oliva's political views and with his quality as a leader. Another military officer Collor intends to appoint as minister is Amazon Region Commander Antenor Santa Cruz, whose daughter was Collor's college friend in Rio de Janeiro.

According to military sources, three other names have been considered by Collor. It is thought that he will appoint Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Mario Cesar Flores as Navy minister; Superior Military Court member Brigadier Cherubim Rosa Filho as Aeronautics minister; and Aeronautics Finance Secretary Brigadier Murilo dos Santos, as Armed Forces chief of staff.

Before making these decisions, Collor will have to talk with Brigadier Paulo Roberto Camarinha, currently estranged from the Armed Forces for having demanded better salaries for the military. Camarinha became a leader within the Armed Forces for having defended the pay increases for military men. He will have some influence on Collor's decisions, especially in the appointment of the aeronautics minister.

These meetings with military officers will gain the presidential candidates many votes from the military sector. Soon after the 15 November elections, when the vote tally determined that Lula would become Collor's competitor in a second round, the Army Secret Service found some leaflets in the Vila Militar quarters—the largest Brazilian Army unit—recommending Collor's candidacy as the best for the country.

Medellin Cartel Member To Be Extradited to U.S.

PY0112011989 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 30 Nov 89 p 10

[Text] Brasilia—Justice Minister Saulo Ramos said yesterday that Colombian Dr Guillermo Inacio Zambrano Pampuja—a member of the gang connected to the Medellin Cartel that was dismantled by the Federal Police Department (DPF) this week—will be extradited to the United States. The U.S. courts have already requested Pampuja's extradition and all the Brazilian Supreme Federal Court (STF) has to do is to agree to the request.

The Justice Ministry has already reported to the STF that Pampuja is under arrest, so the extradition process can begin. Pampuja has been placed at the disposal of the STF, which had already called for his preventive arrest. The STF is therefore ready to immediately analyze the extradition request. Pampuja will testify in Sao Paulo today.

According to Minister Ramos, DPF Director General Romeu Tuma was sure that the drug traffickers would enter the country through Tabatinga so he intensified operations in the town. On 25 November the police started to coordinate the operation, which actually began on 27 November in Tabatinga and ended in Sao Paulo. The minister pointed out that the Colombian Government has not requested Pampuja's extradition from Brazil to later send him to the United States. Brazilian laws do not allow a government to extradite a criminal to a country that will later extradite him to another country.

Nuclear Reactor Accord Signed With USSR

PY3011215489 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Nov 89 p A - 5

[Text] The Brazilian Government has imported two VAX-8600 computers (one the most sophisticated computers on the market) and 14 minicomputers that will detect, in less than 1 second, any abnormal condition in the Angra 1 nuclear plant, in Angra dos Reis, (154 km from Rio de Janeiro). The plant directorate reported that the computers cost approximately $2.5 million (16.5 million new cruzados at the official exchange rate). Each VAX cost $800,000 (some 5.2 million new cruzados). The nuclear plant went down 55 days ago for the replacement of fuel (enriched uranium). The replacement was completed 10 days ago, but Angra 1 may remain closed because of a pending court order, which demands tighter safety measures before the plant can be reopened.

The computers are part of the Angra 1 computer system, which is called Sica. The system was developed by the coordinating board of post-graduate engineering courses (COPPE) of the Rio de Janeiro Federal University (UFRJ), in northern Fundao Island. The plant's directorate reported that the computers receive data from Angra 1 every 2 seconds, and provide a general picture of the plant's operational conditions. The plant operators used to receive the data through the plant's control room.

According to the plant's directorate, the COPPE began working on the Sica system 2 years ago, and it was implemented in the plant 10 days ago. Soviet physicists Andrei Gagarinskiy, Armen Amagiam, and Nikolay Babaev are members of a Soviet delegation which is visiting Brazil. They visited the plant yesterday. Gagarinskiy said that generally Brazil has good prospects in this sector.

The Soviet delegation was not aware that there is a pending court order banning the reopening of Angra 1 until it improves its safety conditions. The closure order on the plant was filed 2 years ago by Deputy Carlos Minc (PV [Green Party] - Rio de Janeiro) and by journalist Fernando Gabeira, who is the PV president. Furnas Centrais Eletricas, which is responsible for the plant, has appealed the decision before the regional appellate court of Rio de Janeiro, which has not yet made a decision on the subject.

Physicist Alexander Protsenko, president of the Soviet State Committee for the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy is among the Soviet delegation. Yesterday he visited the Foreign Ministry in Brasilia to arrange the final details of a technical and scientific cooperation accord that will be signed with Brazil. The accord provides for the supply of information on fast breeder [two preceding words in English] reactors. Brazil and Argentina are doing research on this type of reactor. Argentina will also participate in the accord with the Soviets. The Soviet

physicists also signed a protocol of intent for doing research on small reactors and on emergency plans for nuclear facilities.

Chile

Government 'Will Not Tolerate' Foreign Observers

PY0112001089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Felipe Errazuriz has said that Chile will not tolerate the presence of foreign observers during the upcoming presidential elections. However, Errazuriz said that Chile will welcome all those who wish to come as tourists as usual.

[Begin Errazuriz recording] Chile will not accept foreign observers. Those people who arrive in Chile to enjoy the freedom of travel in our country will be welcome as tourists, as visitors. Chile has always welcomed visitors to our country. However, as hosts we have certain rules that must be respected by visitors. Therefore, any intervention in the electoral process by people coming from abroad will not be allowed. [end recording]

Minister Errazuriz noted that there is a special commission organizing the 14 December elections and that the measures implemented for the 5 October 1988 plebiscite will be used again on this occasion.

* Post-Election State, Labor Relations Viewed

90ET0030A Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish 19 Oct 89 pp 35-37

[Article by B. del Solar V.: "Labor Law: Avoiding Temptation"]

[Text] The danger of yielding to three temptations: continuist, restorationist, and populist, was the subject of economist Rene Cortazar's talk to businessmen attending ENADE '88 [National Development Effort]. Cortazar is one of the leading candidates for the post of labor minister if the Concertacion of the 17 should win in December as a result of changes occurring in labor relations throughout the world over the past decade: "a trend consisting of moving from confrontational labor relations to more cooperative relations, making the leap from mere collective bargaining to mechanisms of participation."

It is clear to everyone that changes are bound to occur in labor laws. The subject is included in Hernan Buchi's government program as well as the Programmatic Bases for Concertacion based on the belief that it will be a rather thorny issue to handle, given the accumulation of social demands.

The crux of the matter therefore seems to be precisely what those modifications involve and what route should be taken to achieve them. According to Alejandro Foxley, the challenge lies in being able to answer the following question: "How can a sustained increase in productivity be achieved while developing equitable labor relations and without dampening entrepreneurial creativity?"

Buchi's program addresses the matter of avoiding that damper when it states that "any modification of labor laws that limits the ability of businesses to create jobs directly affects the interests of unions and workers." It does not go any further except to say that it believes in the need for strong and well trained unions and that, "with broad participation of those involved, improvement will come about in practices governing collective bargaining and unionization, while respecting certain basic principles: absolute protection of the right to strike, noninterference in politics by wage earners, bargaining by enterprise, and voluntary membership and payment of dues."

The program of the Concertacion of the 17 goes much further on the matter, while warning that its proposal is not definitive and remains open to debate. It agrees with the principal union confederations on the diagnosis. They believe that current law does not safeguard equity for both sides and that the result has been a weakening of the union movement.

Whatever the case, workers belonging to labor unions today make up no more than 10 percent of the labor force under circumstances in which, 16 years ago, the percentage was nearly 30. For that very reason, officials of the United Labor Federation (CUT), led by Diego Olivares, and the Workers Democratic Federation (CDT), headed by Eduardo Rios, agree, despite their differences, that the first step is to strengthen labor organizations.

This is not possible, Rios says, unless there is compulsory membership and dues, at least temporarily—setting a period of 5 years—although this goes against the standards of the International Labor Organization (ILO) itself on the matter. "If the trade union organization is not strong and not adequately advised because of a lack of means, then it will once again become an appendage of the parties in which trade union leaders are active."

Less radical on this point are the CUT and the Concertacion. Both speak of voluntary membership and compulsory dues. The left is even starting to recognize a kind of contradiction in the proposal. Given the circumstances, however, they also justify it temporarily.

Guillermo Campero, director of ILET [Latin American Institute for Transnational Studies] and member of the Concertacion labor committee, has another interpretation. "There is no compulsory dues paying; rather, it is 'optional.' Workers may choose between paying into the union or a union training fund that would be set up and serve to train people, not only technically, but on civic matters as well. It has not yet been decided who would administer the fund. The job could be shared by workers who are members and some who are not."

Increasing the number of unionized workers automatically makes it possible to expand collective bargaining, another of the objectives set by the Concertacion. We thus come to another sensitive point of the agenda to be discussed.

Program guidelines basically do away with the ban on bargaining outside of the enterprise. This is something to be decided by the workers. Campero does warn, however, that the businessman is not forced to sign supraenterprise agreements.

At the same time, Diego Olivares states that workers have matured with respect to these issues. "We are seeking mechanisms permitting bargaining by branch depending on the level of the enterprise. Considering the diversity of enterprises that may exist in a given sector, we propose the possibility of negotiating on three levels: national, branch, and enterprise." What we want, the official says, is stability in the enterprise to prevent the loss of jobs and reductions in pay. "If I make an excessive demand, I endanger the company's and therefore the workers' stability."

Other formulas have been explored by experts of the Concertacion of the 17 in order to reconcile job stability with the flexibility needed to face up to technological changes and hard times economically speaking. Formulas can be shuffled, Campero insists. "We can include clauses allowing us to terminate the labor contract when there is a cause not attributable to the worker, but these must be clearly established. Such a decision will depend on the company's health, which forces management to keep workers informed." The maximum 5-year indemnification would immediately be eliminated and one would revert to 1 month a year.

There is also a desire to set up an appeals court, which could be the regular courts or labor tribunals when stereotyped motives are maliciously used. If the layoff is due to technological changes, Campero proposes that companies make "provisions" for payment into a fund to handle such circumstances. In this way, unemployment insurance would be provided to enable the worker to get along properly until he finds other employment. It is also feasible, he says, to look at the experiences of other countries. "In Italy, for example, agreements have been reached between employers and workers in order to face negative circumstances. Temporary unemployment would make it possible to reduce the personnel for a time, after which workers would be rehired."

Striking, the last recourse in the collective bargaining process, is a point on which, in the opinion of the Concertacion as well as trade union leaders, far-reaching changes must be made, eliminating the 60-day limitation and the possibility of hiring workers. This is definitely a ticklish modification for management. One spokesman for the sector says the limitation exists because it could otherwise be transformed into a tool of expropriation that throws management off balance. "In the United States, workers can be hired from the very first day."

Greater agreement exists on other issues, however. Certain employer as well as labor circles are for expanding the framework of collective bargaining to spheres going beyond a mere increase in pay. Other aspects take on importance: health, pension plans, recreation, and so on.

Nor should one forget training. This is a key variable for labor relations in the future, a point included in Buchi's program as well as that of the 17 and workers' proposals.

In the final analysis, the magic formula for achieving agreement, that social harmony between management and workers of which there has been so much talk, has not gone much beyond words. There are "hard-line" management sectors that do not want to hear about reform in current law, while others think there is a need for change. Many are for the modern solution of abandoning the traditional confrontational approach to labor relations and substituting new concepts of integration and participation in the enterprise. There is naturally nothing about negotiating by branch or compulsory dues. In the opinion of one of them, making dues voluntary forces unions to be efficient. Moreover, minimum rates affect consumers, forcing them to pay the cost of lower productivity. "The greatest protection for workers is economic growth and development, which also guarantees them job stability. What I do believe is indispensable as a responsibility of society is to provide unemployment subsidies that truly help the worker face that possibility."

Neither the workers nor management hope to achieve agreements before 14 December any more than politicians do. A large part of the direction of change will depend on election results. Labor leaders claim they will not be a factor of destabilization of the period of full democracy beginning in March 1990. There are nevertheless basic, urgent demands: minimum wages and pensions, for example.

On these issues, what is most likely is that patience will not be infinite. Everything will depend on how far talks between management and workers go, particularly in small and average-size companies, and what demands are put before the new government.

Latin America

Country	No. Unions	Percent of Labor Unionized
Argentina	1,411	68.0
Brazil	7,000	20.0
Colombia	1,478	9.0
Chile	5,391	9.0
Ecuador	2,030	10.5
Uruguay	93	29.0
Venezuela	8,300	49.0

Source: German Press Agency (DPA)

Based on 1988 data

Colombia

Police Arrest Drug Trafficker Wanted in U.S.

PA0112012489 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0052 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] Bogota, 30 Nov (EFE)—The Administrative Department of Security [DAS] today arrested Fernando Gutierrez Perez, who has been sentenced in Paris and Stockholm in connection with drug trafficking activities, and whose extradition has been requested by U.S. authorities. Gutierrez, who was informed immediately of the extradition request issued against him by an Arizona (the United States) federal court, has 5 days, beginning today, for his attorneys to appeal.

The DAS has not reported where and how it captured Gutierrez, who faces no charges in Colombia. Gutierrez, who was captured and brought to trial in France and Sweden, was found guilty of participating in a cocaine distribution network in Europe.

If extradited, Gutierrez would become the ninth Colombian sent to the United States to face charges on the trafficking and sale of cocaine since a "total war" was launched in Colombia against drug traffickers on 18 August, and the extradition of persons involved in this crime was approved.

Political Pact Signed Between Government, M-19

PA3011182189 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Nov 89 pp 9-A, 10-A

["Political Pact for Peace and Democracy" signed by the Colombian Government, the Liberal Party, the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Catholic Church, and the 19 April Movement during a ceremony at the Colombian Congress on 2 November]

[Text] **I. Introduction**

On 10 January 1989, the national government and the 19 April Movement [M-19] began a process seeking to consolidate peace, a reconciliation among Colombians, and the reincorporation of the guerrillas into civilian life. It was agreed at that time to encourage initiatives and the necessary actions that would promote the return to full democracy, and to establish a path for the demobilization of the guerrillas with the necessary guarantees for their reincorporation into social and political life.

In this effort for peace, the leaders of the political parties represented in parliament—the Colombian Liberal Party, the Social Conservative Party, and the Patriotic Union—were invited to join in the talks with the national government, the M-19, and other armed rebel organizations, and to establish a means of participation for conveying their own contributions as well as those of all other forces in the country.

This is how the so-called working roundtables were established. The working roundtables held sessions under the terms and conditions established in the agreements between the national government and the M-19. In the same manner, and with the purpose of promoting the participation of other political, social, labor, professional, and all other sectors, the working roundtables decided to hold separate working roundtables for analysis and coordination. The analysis and coordination roundtables were created to hold debates and present proposals for consensus at the working roundtables, and as a means to make commitments on social, economic, and political issues when the participating representatives reached an agreement.

A total of three analysis and coordination roundtables were held with the participation of authorized representatives from the national government, the Colombian Liberal Party, the Social Conservative Party, the M-19, and other sectors and forces representing society, such as public and private universities, regional professional associations, labor unions, peasants and Indian associations, retired military personnel, political forces not represented in parliament, and groups representing producers. At the request of the working roundtables, the Catholic Church, through its highest ranking representatives, agreed to be one of the main parties in this process to act as a moral and spiritual guide.

The contributions and proposals made by all of the aforementioned sectors, conveyed through a democratic dialogue process, make up the basis of the present agreement.

The agreements reached among the working roundtable members include clearly setting up the procedures to establish commitments regarding possible proposals for constitutional and law reforms and the possible adoption of measures by the executive branch, which could be adopted as a result of the agreements between the national government, the political parties, and the armed rebels. The national government proposed to present the corresponding proposals for Congress' consideration and to take the necessary steps for the implementation of measures and specific plans, provided that all of the above were attained as the result of consensus among the active members, with full rights, at the working roundtables.

In this manner, the national government, the political parties, and the guerrillas made clear commitments during this process. The government commitments included presenting and promoting initiatives at the Congress, implementing programs and specific measures, and ensuring the guarantees agreed upon for the rebels' reincorporation into civilian life. The commitments of the parties included arranging and implementing the respective plans. The rebels' commitments dealt with their reincorporation into civilian life in the country while fully abiding by our constitutional and legal system.

In this respect, it is worthwhile to note the frank and decisive stance of Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, Colombian

Liberal Party leader and former president. In a letter addressed to the presidential adviser for reconciliation, he commented on the possible agreements of the working roundtables: "I wish to reiterate, to you, my and the Liberal Party's stance of frankly and decisively supporting the initiatives that are endorsed by the government." Moreover, former President Misael Pastrana Borrero said that since September 1988 the Social Conservative Party has been ready to support the work to develop the government's peace proposal if the armed rebels supported it. In line with this stance, Social Conservative Party spokesmen at the working roundtable pointed to their party's commitment to the political agreements that stemmed from the peace dialogues. In addition, Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, as M-19 general commander, referred to his organization's commitment to this process by stating in a letter addressed to President Virgilio Barco that M-19 would then participate "in the political arena headed by its general commander, and seal its fate with the total demobilization of its weapons."

In the past 8 months, the country has participated in the detente process with the guerrilla movement and has witnessed the seriousness with which the sides, with this historic effort, have been making new commitments to contribute to total peace and democratic coexistence.

In a letter addressed to M-19 Commander Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, President Barco accurately assessed the scope of the working roundtable by reaffirming that the "true political pact" will be formalized within the working roundtable.

Once the analysis and coordination roundtables completed their work, and once their proposals were reviewed by the working roundtable, the following component points of the Political Pact for Peace and Democracy were agreed on:

II. Aspects of Constitutional and Electoral Matters

1. The working roundtable accepts the consensus of the analysis and coordination roundtable to promote, within the context of a constitutional amendment, Article 87, which was approved in the first round of debates in the Congress. This article amends Article 218 of the Constitution by adding to it a temporary paragraph that serves as the constitutional basis for summoning an extraordinary referendum for peace and democracy.

2. The national government, with the concurrence of Congress, will include in the text of the referendum that will be submitted to the people those points that satisfy the desire for the creation of new channels of participation by the citizens to expand Colombian democracy.

The signed agreement will be the object of a special follow-up meeting concerning the fulfillment of the acquired commitments by each of the parties, both in this aspect as well as the others included in the agreement. This function will be carried out by the working roundtable, which will periodically meet for this purpose until the date when the weapons are relinquished by the movement to rejoin civilian life.

In this regard, and as a result of the conclusions of the analysis and coordination roundtables, it was decided to incorporate as essential topics of this agreement the following points in the text of the referendum:

a. The establishment of the Special National District for Peace [Circunscripcion Nacional Especial de Paz] to permit the incorporation into the country's constitutional life of those Colombians who are members of guerrilla organizations that reach agreement with the national government, join civilian life, and participate in political mobilization after relinquishing weapons.

b. The recognition as political parties of the guerrilla movements that participate in political mobilization after relinquishing weapons, as a result of the agreements and as an expression of the current government's policy of peace.

The national government will regulate the terms and conditions that will make the political movements' participation in the next elections possible.

c. The establishment of the obligation to vote in a gradual process that will begin with all citizens under age 60 who are capable of voting and live in capital cities. The procedures to gradually enforce and implement this law will be regulated so the law will go into effect when Senate and House elections are held in 1990.

d. The president of the Republic's initiative on the right to peace, human rights, and the establishment of a national district for political minorities.

3. The Special National District for Peace will be marked by the following characteristics and conditions:

a. It will only be in effect for the Senate and House elections during the 1990-1994 constitutional period.

b. Its purpose will be to create a political opening for all the rebel groups who join civilian life, in agreement with the national government.

c. It must be understood that the list of hopefuls will receive nationwide coverage when elections are held in at least six territorial districts.

d. Citizens duly registered as members of the political party resulting from the rebel group's process of full incorporation into institutional life will be entitled to be on the list of senator and representative hopefuls for the district, under the terms of the government's peace policy. The registration of slates will be carried out in accordance with Article 93 of the Colombian Electoral Code, and the deadline to present and register those slates will be the same as that for the other slates of hopefuls to the Senate and Chamber, that is, 6 February 1990.

e. Separate lists will be presented for the Senate and the House of Representatives.

f. There will be a single list for each political movement for all the departments, intendancies, and commissariats.

g. The qualifications for senators or representatives of this district will be the same as those demanded by the Constitution. Also, the rights and duties of the lawmakers elected for this district will be the ones that apply for the persons elected by the territorial districts.

h. To determine the number of senators and representatives, the residuals will not be taken into consideration.

i. The assembly seats created by the Special National District for Peace system will be in addition to the current number of senators and representatives.

j. The number of senators and representatives that will go to the Congress of the Republic for the Special National District for Peace will be determined based on the following procedure:

- The base will be the national quotient corresponding to the 1986 parliamentary elections. This way, the number of senators and representatives that will appear in the list, with a vote equal to or less than three national quotients, is determined according to a preferential system based on figures that are described below. In case the number of votes is higher than the sum of three national quotients, the national quotient will be taken as reference to grant the new seats.

- The method to apply the Special National District for Peace system is based, therefore, on a system of gradually increasing cumulative quotients so to receive an additional seat a higher number of votes than those required for the immediately preceding seat is necessary, as noted in Paragraph 1 and Chart 1.

- For the two first Senate seats, a total vote equivalent to the lowest departmental residuals needed to elect a senator for the 1986-1990 period (16,584 votes) is required.

- If this number of votes is not obtained, a candidate will be entitled to a seat if he receives a number of votes that is the same or higher than the national average of the lowest departmental residuals of the past three elections (12,212 votes).

- For the third seat, an additional number of votes will be required, equal to the lowest departmental residual for the 1986 senate elections (16,584 votes).

- For the fourth seat, an additional number of votes equal to the average minimum departmental quotients of the last three senatorial elections (23,561 votes) would be required.

- For the fifth and sixth seats, an additional number of votes equal to the minimum departmental quotient of the 1986 senatorial elections (27,842 votes) would be required.

- For the seventh and eighth seats, an additional number of votes equal to the average national remainder of the 1986 senatorial elections (33,769 votes) would be required.

- From the ninth seat on, an additional number of votes equal to the average national remainder of the 1986 senatorial elections (60,024 votes) would be required.

k. To provide access to the House of Representatives, the same procedure described regarding the Senate will be applied, using the figures corresponding to that legislative body.

The procedure outlined above is described in the attached charts and annexes.

4. To guarantee that the amendments to the political constitution will include the call to a National Constituent Assembly through a referendum, the political parties that are full members of the working roundtables will promote, during the second round of Draft Legislative Act 11 of the 1988 Senate, the inclusion of a clause under Section 2 of Article 81 of the current Constitutional Reform Draft containing the following provision: "The objective of the referendum will be to consult the primary constituent members about the call for and makeup of the Constituent Assembly tasked with reforming the Constitution."

5. The national government and the political parties will sponsor the addition to Bill 218 of 1986, which is currently under discussion in the House, of an article authorizing the government to include in the rules of said law, on an equitable basis, the state financing agreed to by the working roundtables for the parties that are participating in the Special National District for Peace authorized by referendum.

6. The national government and the political parties will sponsor the inclusion in Decree 2241 of 1986 (Electoral Code) of a provision authorizing the use of the electoral card in the elections for mayors and congressmen.

In this regard, it should be noted that two bills are currently under discussion in Congress. One of them, which is identified with the number 100 in the Senate and has already been discussed by the House of Representatives, provides, among other things, for the elimination of restrictions on intermunicipal transit, publicity for the electoral census, elimination of the use of ink to identify voters, and free dissemination of electoral data. The second one, Bill 9, provides for the adoption of the electoral card for the election of mayors and congressmen and specifies that votes will be cast in an environment of privacy to guarantee full freedom of choice at the time of voting.

The government will vote for approval of these two bills and will promote their full enforcement if approved.

7. Political parties emerging as a result of the application of the peace initiative will acquire legal status by submitting an application to the Electoral Court, signed by the board of the political movement and attaching the movement's bylaws and the declaration of their platform.

The members of the working roundtables will promote the adoption of initiatives aimed at guaranteeing a most broad and democratic dissemination of political and electoral programs. These initiatives include, among other things:

a. An increase in prime-time television time available to the political parties for publicity purposes.

b. Enforcement of current rules authorizing the state to dispose of time on all radio stations and to study the possibility of allocating it to political organizations on an equitable basis.

c. To promote agreements with the national and regional printed media to devote space as free forums to the political parties on an equitable basis.

d. To regulate Article 22 of Law 58 of 1985 to establish reduced rates at state-run printeries for the political parties during electoral campaign periods.

Regulations for the immediate but gradual implementation of the compulsory and secret vote provision will have to take the following criteria into account:

a. To complement the decision made by the law of using the electoral card for the secret voting during the 1990 presidential elections, the same system will be used for the elections of mayors in 1992 and the elections of public corporations [corporaciones publicas] beginning in 1994.

b. The provision of the compulsory vote will establish a system of sanctions and incentives. For example, voters will have preference in the assignation of public posts, voters will have preference when choosing government contractors, and voters will enjoy benefits subsidized by the state. The sanctions will include the impossibility of occupying public posts and obtaining passports.

Within that context, the working roundtables will try to achieve consensus on the aforementioned regulation.

III. Socioeconomic Aspects

Socioeconomic and executive programs and bills will be drafted in regard to the following fields:

1. Participative Planning

Mechanisms to promote the participation of the community in the creation of development and investment plans through various participative instruments will be promoted.

Amendments to Law 11 of 1986 are prohibited according to the consensus reached by the corresponding Table of Analysis and Agreement as stated in Annex 1 of the conclusions of the said table.

Compliance with the system of royalties transfer will be verified. The CORPES [Regional Economic and Social Planning Councils] will be instructed to create subregions to facilitate planning according to socioeconomic and cultural homogeneity and geographic proximity.

2. Income and Wage Policy

Policies for the marketing of farming products and the strengthening of IDEMA [Agricultural-Livestock Marketing Institute] will be formulated to benefit the peasant economy and the neediest urban sectors.

Control over oligopolies and monopolies will be strengthened. Structural measures promoting the expansion of economic opportunities and the strengthening of small and medium-sized industries, the microenterprise, and a solid economy will be adopted.

In agreement with employers and workers, measures for the control of minimum wage payments and the acknowledgement of legal benefits in all of the economy's fields will be adopted.

Policies leading to the consolidation of the income of workers and small and medium-sized producers will be adopted so wage increases are not cancelled out by price increases.

3. Labor policies

Policies guaranteeing worker participation in the improvement of efficiency and productivity, as well as in the businesses' profits, will be adopted.

Measures to improve and disseminate information regarding job opportunities will be adopted. Agencies in charge of finding temporary jobs will be regulated.

Feasible formulas for the creation of an unemployment insurance by the National Labor Council will be studied and promoted.

The right of petition of public employees and utility company officials will be regulated.

4. Natural resources

The compatibility of sustained economic development with environmental protection will be raised to a constitutional level, and, within the next 6 months, a draft legislative act will be issued.

The reorganization of the Agriculture Ministry will be used to reorganize the renewable natural resources department.

Clear norms for the development of advisory and supervisory mechanisms and for the application of legal and

technical instruments of control, and sanctions to guarantee rational use of natural resources, will be issued.

Formulas to finance the use of natural resources without harming national sovereignty will be devised and applied. Official training programs on the importance and handling of natural resources will be adopted at various educational levels.

Parks and natural reservations will never be used for purposes other than those established by the law.

5. Peasant Proposal and Production

The production of food products where the country has a comparative advantage will be promoted.

Reducing risks in the production of basic food products will be promoted through notes issued for loans against goods in warehouse and through the direct intervention of IDEMA.

Small-scale irrigation will be stimulated with appropriate technology, and women and youth will be included in INCORA [Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform] programs as beneficiaries and agents of same.

Agrarian reform will be given a strong push forward.

6. Marketing

Basic food products will be given priority in the agricultural-livestock product marketing policy. Support will be given to peasant associations that produce basic foods for marketing, and its stock participation in supply and food centers will be facilitated. Educational and advisory campaigns for farmers, transporters, and consumers will be designed.

7. Food Security

Mechanisms, such as bonds exchangable for food, will be designed and implemented.

Emergency programs in high risk sectors will be implemented. The programs are to organize low-cost family markets, give community training to their beneficiaries, and increase the school cafeteria programs that have been furthered by the ICBF [Colombian Family Welfare Institute].

8. Housing

Relocation and improvement plans for the high-risk area settlements will be designed and implemented. The programs should include contributions of beneficiaries, municipalities, and the national government. The ICT [Territorial Credit Institute] and BCH [Central Mortgage Bank] will give priority to cofinancing housing projects furthered by municipalities. The government will design technical and financial mechanisms to back self-help and self-construction organizations.

9. Health

The Health Ministry will study Decree 1216 of 1989 to make amendments that will guarantee the participation of the users in the work done by the sector.

The Health Ministry will study alternatives that will allow the participation of the practicing dentists in social dentistry programs.

Appropriate mechanisms will be established to speed up the distribution of funds allotted to the health sector.

The establishment of programs for the production and distribution of basic medicines and the implementation of Law 15 of 1989, that ensures the establishment of the Health Services Superindency, will be sped up.

The concept of public assistance will be restricted to health matters, thus establishing a difference between public assistance for health matters and social security. These matters must be included in a reorganizational draft that the Health Ministry will present to Congress.

10. National Fund for Peace

A National Fund for Peace will be established to promote specific actions and programs in those areas where the groups that will join civilian life have been present and influenced the populations during the period prior to the beginning of the current peace process.

Once the political party resulting from the movement of those who have fought and subsequently joined the political mobilization within the terms of the present agreement has been established, it will have the right to be a member of the Rehabilitation Municipal Councils in those areas where the implementation of the National Fund for Peace coincides with the operation of the National Rehabilitation Plan.

Following a study of the needs with the participation of the community, the evaluation of the needs, the selection of areas, and the drafting and approving of investment programs will be under the responsibility of the Normalization Council included in the plan for laying down weapons and incorporation into civilian life.

Financing will be obtained from:

a. A basic budget, included in the national budget, allotted to the People's Integration Secretariat of the Presidency. This basic budget will not be less than the amounts allotted to each municipality by the People's Integration Secretariat's Special Projects Fund. The participation of private businessmen in the plans being implemented will be sought.

b. The benefits obtained from the enterprises in the programs that have been implemented in the selected areas.

A working team will be formed consisting of the National Planning Department [DNP], the Popular Integration Secretariat [SIP] of the Presidency, and Treasury Ministry officials. This team will be created to draft a

proposal regarding the contents, scope, financing, and institutional organization of the National Fund for Peace. The proposal will have to be revised and approved by the Normalization Council.

As of the signing of the current agreement and as an emergency measure, the government will allocate a sum of money to begin the operations of the National Fund for Peace. The National Fund for Peace will begin working on areas where there is currently an armed presence of the movement. The allocation will be administered by the SIP. The Normalization Council will make the decisions regarding investments in the aforementioned areas.

Note: Presidential Directive (...) expressly states the specific responsibilities and commitments that the various state organizations will assume as of the signing of the current agreement.

To guarantee compliance with the previous agreements regarding socioeconomic aspects through the DNP and SIP, the Colombian Government, with the various ministries and corresponding institutions, will coordinate the development of studies and programs and the adoption of the necessary measures for the implementation of those studies and programs. In the cases that the programs coincide with existing government programs, the corresponding ministry will inform on the implementation and progress of the programs.

IV. Matters Regarding Coexistence, Justice, and Public Order

1. Advisory Justice Commission

Through a decree, the government will create and form a government advisory commission that will study and propose ideas that would contribute to a fair and speedy administration of justice. Among other things, the said commission will establish strategies for the overall revision of the legal system in the following areas:

a. Substantive revision

b. Procedural revision

c. Administrative revision

d. Budgetary revision

e. Personnel revision

To that effect, the said commission shall assess the existing studies for revamping of the legal system.

The commission will consist of seven members appointed by the president and will be in force for 3 years. The members will be chosen according to terms previously specified in the conclusions of the consensus reached in the Table of Analysis and Agreement, which discussed that issue.

The commission will receive complaints of those who believe their rights have been violated because of the legal system's ineffectiveness, especially regarding cases of human rights violations resulting from the violence the country is experiencing. Those complaints should be sent to the Attorney General's Office and their development and solution will be carefully followed by the commission.

The commission will inform the nation about its activities every 6 months.

2. Statute for the Defense of Democracy

Through a decree, the government will revise and modify Decree 180 of 1988, called the Statute for the Defense of Democracy. The revision will be based on the need to establish a difference between terrorism and political crime so that common courts will have jurisdiction over political crimes. The specific purposes of this decision are:

a. To specify what a crime of terrorism is, to avoid ambiguous interpretations.

b. To define and clearly classify the forced disappearance of people as a crime against humanity.

3. Self-Defense Groups

The government will give follow-up to the corresponding minimum consensus of the Table of Analysis and Agreement. Thus, the government will publish information about self-defense groups that operate under the responsibility of the Armed Forces and that are protected by Law 48 of 1968. The information should provide these groups' geographical location and number of members, as well as the types of weapons they use.

4. Nongovernmental Commission for the Study of Drug Trafficking

The Government Ministry, representing the national government, will form a nongovernmental and academic commission with full autonomy and independence to investigate the national and international scope of drug trafficking.

The results of the investigation will be presented to the national government and the general public within 6 months. The commission will be made up of investigators from public and private universities and from well-known social research centers.

The national government will allot funds to finance the work of said commission.

6. [number as published] Humanitarian International Law

Concerning this issue, the consensus of the analysis and coordination working roundtable was the following: "Although all members of the working roundtable have the conviction that international law rules, even without a need to be recognized by any legal order, the roundtable recommends that the national government promote the ratification by Congress of Protocols I and II of

1977 that cover humanitarian international law in situations of internal armed conflict.

The national government has formed a commission made up of the Foreign Ministry and the Presidential Advisory Commission for the Defense and Protection of Human Rights to study said recommendation and consider, with the necessary safe-conducts, the feasibility of presenting the respective draft laws to the Congress of the Republic. We feel it is important that the concept of this commission be defined prior to 31 December 1989.

V. Other Aspects

1. On the dissemination of this agreement

Once this agreement is approved by the members of the working roundtable and ratified by the leadership of the parties represented therein, the commission for information and promotion of the process, which has already been formed by the government and M-19, will prepare and carry out a program of dissemination and explanation of the same. This plan must contemplate using television, radio, and newspapers, according to current regulations. Likewise, this plan will have to contemplate:

a. The publication of the agreement document in newspapers that circulate nationwide.

b. The dissemination over radio, both local radio stations as well as radio networks.

c. The explanation of its importance and scope by means of television, to be done during prime time schedules.

Inasmuch as the moment this agreement is signed the peace process enters its final stage, it is necessary to implement a plan of permanent publicity that will be maintained until the moment M-19 becomes a legal political organization.

2. Follow-up of the commitments

A special follow-up will be made of the signed agreement, to ensure that each of the involved parties complies with its commitments.

This function will be met by the working roundtable that will hold periodic sessions until the movement joining civilian life abandons its weapons.

VI. Final Considerations

The process that began on 10 January 1989 has satisfactorily culminated in the proposed goals, that is, a timetable for total democratization and the incorporation of the M-19 into the civilian and political life of the country.

The conclusion of this political agreement for peace and democracy has a tremendous meaning in view of its achievements and its implications for the future of Colombian democracy, and its significance increases in view of the difficult circumstances in the country.

This agreement also makes it evident that only a political willingness for reconciliation allows one to make significant progress in the commitments that lead to peace. It also points out that not only through the responsible participation of the driving forces of the nation and political parties can one achieve the necessary context for consolidating coexistence.

The commitments that have been made follow the true demands of many social groups and the undeniable need to improve democracy and advance in the field of social justice. The agreements that have been reached are advisable for the nation and correspond to the purposes of a solid and participative democracy in which all Colombians will be able to ensure a future of peace and freedom.

For the national government, Carlos Lemos Simmonds, minister of government, and Rafael Pardo Rueda, presidential adviser;

For the Colombian Liberal Party, Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala, national director, and Saulo Arboleda, secretary general;

For M-19, Ramiro Lucio Escobar and Rene Ramos Suarez;

For the National Congress, Luis Guillermo Giraldo, president of the Senate of the Republic, and Norberto Morales Ballesteros, president of the House of Representatives;

For the Catholic Church as a spiritual and moral guide, Monsignor Alvaro Fandino Franky.

Paraguay

Salvadoran Embassy To Report on FMLN Talks

PY3011212089 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 30 Nov 89 p 13

[Text] A spokesman of the Salvadoran Embassy in Asuncion told ULTIMA HORA that this embassy will hold a news conference tomorrow on the meeting that Argentine President Carlos Menem held with a representative of the Farabundo Martin Liberation Front (FMLN) and to discuss the current situation in that Central American country.

In Buenos Aires, Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo has said that Menem's meeting with FMLN representative Miguel Saenz Varela was held at the VIP room in the Aeroparque Airport shortly before Menem left for Paraguay.

Government sources here have denied that this meeting was held in Asuncion. Originally it had been stated that Saenz Varela had come to Asuncion for the meeting.

The Salvadoran Embassy spokesman said: "We can definitely confirm that the Salvadoran president phoned Menem. The phone call was received at the Paraguayan

Government Palace, but as Menem had already left for the Argentine Embassy we transferred to phone call there. President Rodriguez was present when Menem spoke to President Alfredo Cristiani."

The source also confirmed that Cristiani asked Menem to mediate before Daniel Ortega's government to get Nicaragua to suspend the military aid that it grants to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Ynsfran Excluded From Colorado Orthodox Faction

PY3011165189 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 30 Nov 89 p 4

[Text] Members of the Colorado Party [ANR] traditionalist orthodox faction yesterday officially informed Edgar L. Ynsfran, second vice president of the ANR executive board, that he has been excluded from the list that the traditionalist orthodox faction will submit in the upcoming extraordinary party convention. Ynsfran's supporters have retaliated, however, by announcing they will issue their own list which reportedly will be headed by Ynsfran, who was a former interior minister under General Alfredo Stroessner.

During yesterday's meeting at the ANR headquarters of conventioneers and ANR party precinct chairmen from the interior and from the capital, Deputy Angel Roberto Seifart was entrusted with the task of informing precinct leaders about the appointment of a new traditionalist orthodox leadership.

This new proposed leadership is composed of Juan Ramon Chaves, who will continue as the ANR executive board president; Luis Maria Argana as first vice president; Juan Manuel Cano Melgarejo as second vice president; Angel Roberto Seifart as third vice president; and Dionisio Gonzalez Torres, who will be either fourth vice president or first member.

Ynsfran is not included in any traditionalist orthodox faction list, not even as a member.

Seifart's announcement caused unrest among the majority of those attending the meeting. The conventioneers who support Ynsfran booed Seifart.

Ynsfran has reportedly stated that he will respect the decision and that he will retire to his residence, where he will place himself at the disposal of ANR members.

Despite the unrest caused by Seifart's announcement, there were no incidents reported. Several people then accompanied Ynsfran to his residence and immediately announced that they will draft their own list, which will be headed by Ynsfran.

The list to be drafted by Ynsfran's followers will mainly consist of party leaders from the interior.

According to Ynsfran, the traditionalist orthodox faction has been unable to withstand pressures from outside the party and this is why it has decided to exclude him. Ynsfran said that he cannot expect to hold a post forever, and that he, and the other party leaders, are at the service of the people.

The list that has been drafted by the traditionalist orthodox faction does not include any members of the former ANR dissident factions, however, this list may be amended before the extraordinary party convention.

Yesterday, representatives of the ANR precincts departmental council nominated candidates for members of the ANR executive board. They will be elected when the party convention approves the amendment of the party statutes and extends the number of executive board members from 35 to 51. The list that was issued reads: Florinda Paez de Arce from Concepcion; Erico Ibanez from San Pedro de Ycuamandyyu; Francisco Sisner from the Cordillera; Vidal Rolon and Sindulfo Benitez from Caaguazu; [not identified] Guaira; Jose Maria Sarubbi from Caazapa; Lorenzo Zacarias and Dario Palacios from Itapua; Carlos Otto Genhoger from San Ignacio Misiones; Jose Maria Botino from Neembucu; Pedro Julio Bogarin and Enrique Gonzalez from Paraguari; Emilio Pallarolas and Fulgencio Gonzalez from the Central; Jose D. Ovelar from Alto Parana; Agapito Ferreira from Canindeyu; Avelino Ramirez from Amambay; Mario R. Meza from the Chaco; and Francisco Diaz Calderlara from Alto Paraguay.

A committee met yesterday at the residence of Deputy Jose Antonio Moreno Ruffinelli. This committee drafted the traditionalist orthodox list that will be submitted to the party convention. A special committee was established to this effect. It is composed of Angel Roberto Seifart and Juan Manuel Cano Melgarejo, who will represent the Orthodox leadership; and Cornelio Caballero, Samuel Ramirez, and Isidoro Samaniego, who will represent the party precincts from the capital and the interior. Also present at this meeting were Juan Ramon Chaves and Juan Roque Galeano. Seifart was entrusted with informing Edgar L. Ynsfran that he was excluded from the list of candidates for the ANR executive board.

Ynsfran Downplays Exclusion

PY3011194589 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 30 Nov p 5

[Text] After learning about his exclusion from the Colorado Party [ANR] orthodox faction list, Edgar L. Ynsfran has stated: "My separation from this group is due to pressures from outside the party. But the party convention will have the last word because it is the only valid process for deciding which party leaders will be included or excluded."

Ynsfran, who is the ANR's second vice president, said that Angel Roberto Seifart informed him about the party leadership's decision to exclude him from the list of candidates for the extraordinary convention as he was meeting with a group of party precinct presidents who are members of the party precincts council.

He added: "I was aware that some people were planning to exclude me. But we believe that this decision must be voted on by the conventioneers so as to comply with the will of the people."

Ynsfran also pointed out that those present at the meeting reacted immediately to Seifart's announcement and that he interprets this reaction as a compliment. Ynsfran denied that there was a squabble, as had been originally reported.

Ynsfran also said that the list drafted by his former fellow traditionalist orthodox leaders does not include any member of the former ANR dissident factions. He believes, therefore, that the dissidents will issue their own list of candidates. Ynsfran said: "All this is part of the preconvention atmosphere. Therefore, we should not be worried about being excluded from a list. This is only one list. Others may be issued; in fact, others will be issued."

ANR Factions Negotiate Democratization Program

PY3011182689 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
30 Nov 89 p 8

[Text] Negotiations were held yesterday between the "Democratic Alliance" Colorado party faction, which submitted a work plan that seeks the democratization of the ruling Colorado party [ANR], and the "leadership" of the traditionalist orthodox faction—which was represented by Juan R. Chaves and Luis Maria Argana. Education Minister Dionisio Gonzalez Torres mediated in this effort.

The members of the "Democratic Alliance" faction submitted their draft at about 2000 GMT. This draft includes a democratization proposal that envisages the establishment of a commission to amend the party statutes, the renewal of party election lists, the holding of a party census, the renewal of party precinct authorities nationwide, and the holding of an extraordinary party convention in 6 or 10 months following the approval of the political parties law which is now being studied by Congress.

Atilio R. Fernandez, a member of the "Riquelme-led faction" reported yesterday that the "Democratic Alliance" faction already has a draft amending the entire party statute. The "orthodox faction" insists on holding the convention on 2 December, on implementing a partial amendment to the party statutes, and on renewing the party executive board by extending its membership from 35 to 51.

Fernandez said that when the negotiations started, they clearly explained to the orthodox faction that the convention should be held 6 months after the political parties law is approved; that a party census had to be carried out; that new election lists should be drafted; and that the party statute should be amended." He also said that authorities should be elected through direct voting if it is so established in the political parties law.

A marathon round of meetings was held in the afternoon by the different party sectors, while awaiting an answer from the "orthodox faction" to the "Democratic Alliance" proposal. Meetings were held at the houses of [Colorado Popular Movement, MOPOCO, Leader] Miguel A. Gonzalez Casabianca and [ANR First Vice President] Persio Da Silva

The preparation of the "consensus list" was also discussed, turning the Colorado meeting into a real "cat and mouse" game.

Chaves and other "traditionalist orthodox" members, including Angel Seifart, Cano Melgarejo, and presidents from interior Colorado Party precincts, met in Jose Antonio Moreno Rufinelli's home. Those who attended include: Pablo Marzuch, Mario Meza, and Emilio Pallarolas from the interior; and Cornelio Caballero, Samuel Ramirez, and Ignacio Samaniego from the capital.

Luis Maria Argana did not participate in any meeting in the afternoon, which is rather remarkable, since he had accompanied Chaves to Gonzalez Torres' home. Meanwhile, Edgar L. Ynsfran remained in the Colorado Party Executive Board headquarters, accompanied by his brother Oscar Ynsfran, his friend Victor H. Sanchez, and some Colorado Party precinct leaders.

It was announced yesterday that Angel Seifart had allegedly proposed the formation of the "traditionalist democrats," a new mixed Colorado Party leadership that would exclude Edgar L. Ynsfran, Roque J. Avila, and Manuel Frutos Pane.

It must be recalled that Argana was the first traditionalist orthodox leader to speak about Ynsfran's departure from the Colorado Party executive board, although he also mentioned the need for "compensations" by the other sectors, that is, he referred to the exclusion of some traditionalist democrats—possibly Waldino R. Lovera, Mario Mallorquin, and Bernardino Mendez Vall.

Several traditionalist democrats insisted yesterday that no exclusions were mentioned, and Gonzalez Casabianca sustained that Lovera is the MOPOCO candidate.

Casabianca said that it is essential to reach an agreement over the Colorado Party work plan for internal democratization. He also minimized the preparation of a list of candidates for the Colorado Party executive board.

In turn, Persio da Silva said that the convention would not renew the party authorities or reform the party statutes. He said that a committee would be formed to reconcile the opposing sectors and to restructure the Colorado Party through the renewal of the election lists, etc. Roque Galeano, a traditionalist orthodox, said that the convention will take place without fail.

Gonzalez Casabianca said that the convention should simply form a committee to reform the party statutes and to approve a basic work plan leading to the democratic normalization of the party. This work plan should

include a party census, the renewal of the party election lists, the renewal of the national grass-roots leaders, and finally a special convention once the Political Parties Law is approved.

"We must not speak of exclusions," Casabianca said, and yet rumors hinted at consensus lists that would exclude the leaders of all opposing traditionalist sectors.

Colonel's Speech Endorses Military-Civilian Unity

PY3011200889 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 30 Nov 89 p 6

[Text] After fulfilling his duties at Armed Forces headquarters, President Andres Rodriguez visited the Armed Forces Physical Education College to preside over a ceremony to dedicate new works and equipment.

Colonel Carlos Alberto Laran, commander of the Armed Forces Physical Education College, gave a speech on the improvements.

He mentioned that the new equipment will benefit the institution and improve the teaching of physical education in the Armed Forces, a decisive factor in the physical development of the human being toward fortifying the body and maintaining health.

"The Armed Forces are familiar with the saying 'sound mind, sound body,' so they have improved the services of this institution, which is responsible for promoting athletics and training experts in this field in order to improve results," Col Laran said.

He also noted that the Armed Forces are part of Paraguayan society and will always be at the service of the people. The Armed Forces are obliged to contribute their efforts, within the limitations of their capabilities, to strengthen our community, he said, "by placing their unyielding will at the service of the common good, forever ruling out previous shameful systems in which the people and the Armed Forces were divorced or estranged, as if they did not belong to the same Paraguayan family."

Col Laran later said that, along these same lines, the institution he commands will be united with Paraguayan civilians and the patriotic purposes of the national government, "and it will support total compliance with last February's historical proclamation."

Peru

Garcia Leads Ceremony Creating Armed Forces Fund

PY3011225189

[Editorial Report] Lima Television Peruana in Spanish at 1800 GMT on 30 November carries as part of its regular "60 Minutes" newscast live coverage of a ceremony presided over by President Alan Garcia and attended by several ministers, the president of the Council of Ministers, and high-ranking Armed Forces officers and chiefs.

At the opening of the ceremony, which is being held at Government Palace, President Garcia symbolically signs Legislative Decree 554, dated 29 November 1989, and addresses those present on this document, which "gives the Peruvian Armed Forces an untouchable [intangible] fund, especially and specifically assigned for its necessities."

A government official then reads the text of the decree, which was published in today's OFFICIAL GAZETTE. Defense Minister Division General Julio Velasquez Giacarini then addresses the president and officers attending the meeting to express his thanks for the promulgation of this decree, which, he says, "will allow us to better comply with our sacred mission."

At the end of the defense minister's speech, Army General Artemio Palomino Toledo, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff, thanks the president "in the name of the Armed Forces, for the promulgation of this extremely important decree from the legislative branch, which will grant the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force the required economic resources to meet their most urgent needs."

At the end of the ceremony President Garcia reads Law 25128 posthumously naming Army Patron Colonel Francisco Bolognesi a Great Marshall of Peru. The ceremony ends at 1846 GMT.

Argentine Vice President Duhalde Arrives

PY0112123489 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] Argentine Vice President Eduardo Alberto Duhalde has arrived in Peru to participate in a forum on terrorism and drug trafficking.

* Business Views Economic Situation

90ET0045A Lima QUEHACER in Spanish Aug/Sep 89 pp 22-23

[Article by Julio Gamero Requena in collaboration with Juan Carlos Vargas: "What Worries Businessmen"]

[Text] The inflation rate of 114.1 percent a year ago, September 1988, marked the start of the "gradual shock" policy. What are its results today, 12 months later? What is the outlook from now until the end of the current administration?

Bottom Line on the Adjustment Policy

The only thing about the economy that has improved as a result of the adjustment policy is the balance of payments. In other words, we are no longer losing foreign exchange. On the contrary, it is building up rapidly, with

the resulting shift from the red to the black in international reserves. But this appreciable improvement in the balance of payments is greatly overshadowed by the extremely high social price that we have had to pay to achieve it.

The recession is a very deep one. The country's total output has declined 22 percent from the January-May 1988 level. The consumption of families has plummeted, along with the buying power of wages and salaries, plunging from 100 to 40 in just 1 year (April 1988 to April 1989). Official unemployment has risen significantly, not only because young people looking for jobs are not finding them, but also because the wage-earning class is smaller today than a year ago. More than 13 percent of the jobs in industry alone have been eliminated, and around 8 percent in commercial activity. As for inflation, it has reached an annual rate of over 5,000 percent.

The above is a description of the social cost that has been imposed on the majority of the population in order to put our balance of payments on a sound footing and build up reserves. As on other occasions, however, businessmen have declined to make major real sacrifices. As we have seen in another article, not only have they prevented overall profits from shrinking at a time when national income was declining, but they also boosted profits by 6 percent (!!) in absolute real terms.

Current Situation and Political Struggle

As far as wages and salaries are concerned, if the current trend continues, indications are that we touched bottom back in April, because since May we have observed that minimum income, the pay at state-run firms, and the pay at firms without collective bargaining have stopped losing buying power. As of July, for example, the minimum income had regained 18 percent of its real value, although its buying power was still only half what it was a year ago. It bears emphasizing that so far this year this pay has been subject to monthly adjustments, while the pay of those who are under collective-bargaining agreements is increased every 4 months, and thus not much of a recovery is to be seen in it.

As we note a slight upswing in wages and salaries, we would expect that production would also stop declining over the coming months, inasmuch as output lags in reacting to changes in real wages. If this does not happen, it will mean that higher demand is being absorbed by higher prices, which would reveal all-out profiteering by businessmen.

Even if there is a recovery, the employment situation will not improve in the short run. At first, higher production, if it comes, will result only from extra overtime or from working a full week or from putting an end to temporary layoffs, in other words, in all cases with the same labor force, not with a larger one.

In short, given the fierce recession, from now until the end of this administration we do not see major problems in the balance of payments, and a mild recovery may even be possible because the foreign-exchange shortfall is behind us.

It is on the political front that the situation is most in flux. The uproar from conservative groups, which today are grouped together in Fredemo [Democratic Front], is clearly designed to harass the administration from the only angle that they can at present: encouraging expectations to get out of control. It is thereby possible to generate higher inflation than would be expected as a result of the economic policy that has been adopted.

As for exchange-rate policy, the floating dollar has ceased to be a bone of contention, if we consider how close the decontrolled dollar is to the MUC [single exchange market] dollar. Rather, the government is now being asked to make the dollar much more expensive than supply and demand would make it.

Moreover, an undeniably effective 1-percent tax on checking accounts would completely overshadow the hike that they are calling for in public-service rates as a revenue-raising tool. This is one more reason for concern among conservative circles, which see the efficient replacement of an indirect tax by a direct one that will indeed hit them as a defeat for another of their banners of struggle.

Hence, everything tends to reinforce the suspicion that these sectors are not that worried about an eventual deterioration of the economy, with the disastrous consequences it would have for the masses. Instead, they are worried that if the administration succeeds in reducing inflation to between 10 and 15 percent (if indeed the amounts by which the MUC dollar is being devalued run parallel to the slowing of inflation), this relative "success" could translate into fewer votes for them and undermine their free-market criticism of the way the economy is being run.

Venezuela

Perez Comments on Murder of Salvadoran Jesuits

PA0112044989 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0240 GMT 1 Dec 89

[Text] Caracas, 30 Nov (EFE)—Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez referred today to the murder of six Jesuits and two women in San Salvador and said that "there is a generalized suspicion that no one can hide, and it is the extreme right and not the extreme left that committed these murders."

Perez, who expressed his viewpoints about the Salvadoran situation during his news conference at the Miraflores Palace, said that it is very important that these crimes be investigated and that the responsible parties be punished. He added that he has telephoned Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani and U.S. President George Bush and told them about this.

The Venezuelan president said that in spite of the fact the evidence points in one direction to the authors of the crimes committed on 16 November, "We cannot take any sides in this issue, particularly when we are trying to find a solution, and that is exactly what we have done."

Concerning the Spanish Government's decision to suspend cooperation with the governments of El Salvador and Nicaragua, Perez pointed out that this action is one way of maintaining an active neutrality.

According to the Venezuelan president, the Spanish stand is one of cooperation so that there will be peace and understanding in Central America, because it is withdrawing aid as long as it is unclear how serious the conflicting parties are about reaching an agreement.